Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on May 19, 2026, at 2:00 PM, Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

I. **FY 2027 Budget Workshop 2**

Mayor Rusty Paul called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

A. **2026-127** FY 2027 Budget Workshop 2

Eden Freeman, City Manager, reviewed the purpose of the meeting, which includes:

- Review General Fund revenues, the funds needed to support City services
- Compare the revised FY2026 budget to the proposed FY2027 budget to determine which revenues are stable, which are growing, and which may be less predictable
- Revenue estimates help fund services responsibly, avoid overcommitting future budget, and answer policy questions with a clearer financial picture

Budget Principles

- Conservatively determine revenue and expenses
  Solid estimating effectively neutralizes pressures to inflate revenue estimates to cope with budgeting pressures
- Do not use one -time revenue sources for ongoing expenses
  When a non-recurring source of revenue is used to fund an ongoing expense, an "automatic unfunded increase" is built into the budget for the following year

City Council's 2026 Adopted Priorities

- Customer Service, Citizen Engagement, & Innovation
- Public Safety
- Economic Development with a Focus on Redevelopment
- Sustainable Growth and Environmental Stewardship
- Water Reliability
- Recreational and Cultural Enrichment
- Transportation Accessibility and Community Appearance

General Fund Revenues - Taxes
Revised FY2026 vs Proposed FY2027

The largest source of revenue for the budget is property taxes. Modest organic growth is projected with no tax increases or rate changes in this budget. The projected amount for the FY2027 budget is still less than what will be collected in FY2026. The Motor Vehicle (TAVT) is being phased out as vehicles purchased under the old taxing structure age out. Intangible Tax and Real Estate Transfer Tax remain the same. A $500,000 increase is projected for the Electric Franchise Fee and is less than the amount that Georgia Power remitted to the City in FY2026. Cable TV Franchise Fee is decreasing due to the changing way people consume media at home. The Telephone Franchise Fee remains the same. There will be a slight increase in the Solid Waste Franchise Fee based on actual collections by solid waste partners who contract with the City. There is a slight increase in the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) but less than the projected amount for FY206. There will be a slight increase in the Business and Occupational Tax based on actuals. No revenue is projected for Business Audit Revenue. The Insurance Premium Tax is projected to increase.

Councilmember John Paulson asked what would be the biggest impact to the City for LOST?

City Manager Freeman said there will be no significant negative impact to the City. Since incorporation, there have been six different floating homestead exemptions. However, FY2027 may be viewed as the base year going forward on property taxes for the purposes of the general assembly. We are actively engaged and advising them on what could theoretically work instead of depleting the budgets of municipalities across the state.

Mayor Paul said there will be new statewide elected officials, and the House is set to cut homestead property taxes. The City will be affected but the question is how much, and what can the City negotiate to replace? In Senate Bill 33, Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST) for instance must be negotiated with Fulton County and the other cities in the state and it will not have any real impact. A referendum is needed which as well would not occur this year. The impact will be in the next fiscal year.

Councilmember Mary Ford asked for more information on the Electric Franchise Fee.

City Manager Freeman said it is percentage based upon consumption. The franchise agreement can be provided to you.

Councilmember Melody Kelley asked does the City have an agreement with Google Fiber?

City Manager Freeman said no. The City may have an agreement. They proposed a percentage that was not adequate to compensate the City for the price of right of way. We will go back to determine how they want to proceed.

Councilmember Kelley asked do all solid waste vendors pay into the Solid Waste Franchise Fee?

City Manager Freeman said yes.

General Fund Revenues – Licenses and Permits
Revised FY2026 vs Proposed FY2027

Revenues	2026 Revised	2026 Projected *	2027 Proposed	Variance	% Change
Alcoholic Beverage Licenses	$ 650,000	$ 700,000	$ 700,000	$ 50,000	8%
Firearm Permits	$ 25,000	$ 19,532	$ 15,000	$ (10,000)	-40%
Server Pouring Permits	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	$ 25,000	$ (5,000)	-17%
Planning/Zoning Fees	$ 25,000	$ 43,595	$ 25,000	$ -	0%
Development Review Fee	$ 150,000	$ 253,050	$ 200,000	$ 50,000	33%
Building Permits	$ 2,100,000	$ 3,301,597	$ 2,250,000	$ 150,000	7%
Plumbing Permits	$ 10,000	$ 27,580	$ 10,000	$ -	0%
Electrical Permits	$ 10,000	$ 34,160	$ 10,000	$ -	0%
HVAC Permits	$ 40,000	$ 68,125	$ 40,000	$ -	0%
Utility Permits	$ 20,000	$ 23,728	$ 20,000	$ -	0%
Building Reinspection Fees	$ 1,000	$ 55,625	$ 1,000	$ -	0%
Development Impact Fees	$ 1,000	$ 90,000	$ 50,000	$ 49,000	4900%
Special Event Permits	$ 10,000	$ 6,400	$ 10,000	$ -	0%
Permit Technology Fee	$ 40,000	$ 71,042	$ 40,000	$ -	0%
Total	$ 3,112,000	$ 4,724,434	$ 3,396,000	$ 284,000	9%

Councilmember Kelley asked for more information on the Development Impact Fees projected for FY2026 at $90,000 and the March unaudited financial is $89, 679.

City Manager Freeman said it comes from that. We do not expect any more to come in and that is from the collections from Hillcrest.

General Fund Revenues – Charges for Services
Revised FY2026 vs Proposed FY2027

Revenues	2026 Revised	2026 Projected *	2027 Proposed	Variance	% Change
Recreation Fees - Gymnastics	$ 50,000	$ 60,000	$ 60,000	$ 10,000	20%
Recreation Fees - Athletics & Leisure	$ 100,000	$ 109,515	$ 100,000	$ -	0%
Tennis Center	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	$ -	0%
Paddleshack	$ -	$ 16,101	$ 31,200	$ -	0%
Facility Rentals	$ 150,000	$ 120,919	$ 150,000	$ -	0%
Parking Contract	$ -	$ 187,250	$ 250,000	$ -	0%
Other Charges for Services	$ 50,000	$ 44,605	$ 50,000	$ -	0%
Total	$ 500,000	$ 688,390	$ 791,200	$ 10,000	58%

Councilmember Kelley asked where do massage establishments related to the new ordinance fall under?

City Manager Freeman said under business occupational tax.

Councilmember Mular asked if there should be a various change for the Paddleshack and Parking Contract?

City Manager Freeman said it was a negative number but we will reassess how to display the number.

General Fund Revenues – Other Revenues
Revised FY2026 vs Proposed FY2027

Revenues	2026 Revised	2026 Projected	* 2027 Proposed	Variance	% Change
Federal Grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
State Matching Grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
GDOT	$ 141,120	$ 141,120	$ 141,200	$ 80	0%
Municipal Court Fines	$ 2,500,000	$ 2,192,465	$ 2,500,000	$ -	0%
Interest Revenue	$ 7,000,000	$ 6,957,275	$ 6,750,000	$ (250,000)	-4%
Election Qualifying Fees	$ 13,800	$ 16,740	$ -	$ (13,800)	-100%
Photo Enforced Fines	$ -	$ 306,124	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	0%
False Alarm Fees	$ 2,000	$ 815	$ 500	$ (1,500)	-75%
Other Public Safety Fees	$ -	$ 25,000	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	0%
Royalties/Rental Revenue	$ 150,000	$ 284,457	$ 150,000	$ -	0%
Miscellaneous Revenues	$ 200,000	$ 1,093,546	$ 200,000	$ -	0%
Insurance Reimbursement	$ 60,000	$ 64,276	$ 60,000	$ -	0%
Transfers in from Hotel/Motel	$ 1,589,364	$ 1,589,364	$ 1,428,000	$ (161,364)	-10%
Transfers in from Motor Vehicle	$ 100,000	$ 113,762	$ 100,000	$ -	0%
Transfers in Impact Fee	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Transfers in PFA	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Transfers in Development Authority	$ 211,677	$ 328,164	$ 211,700	$ 23	0%
Sale of Assets	$ -	$ 45	$ -	$ -	0%
Total	$ 12,000,529	$ 13,145,722	$ 11,771,400	$ (229,129)	-2%

Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky asked where does Interest Revenue come from?

City Manager Freeman said it is a combination of Georgia Fund 1 and other smaller accounts with Truist.

Mayor Paul said most of the interest revenue comes from interest we earn on reserves.

City Manager Freeman said revenue also comes from TSPLOST where the City receives the money before it is paid out.

Councilmember Chinsky said $7,000,000 is a lot of interest from a reserve.

City Manager Freeman said it decreased. Also, funds are budgeted and transferred into the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) until ready to be spent.

Councilmember Chinsky said under Miscellaneous Revenues, the 2026 Revised amount was $200,000, but the projected is $1,093,546. What caused that increase?

Toni Carlisle, Chief Financial Officer, said with Miscellaneous Revenues, it is mostly any activity from a prior year that funds are received in the subsequent year. In addition, rebates, lift assist charged to nursing homes, and IGA fees are received here.

City Manager Freeman said they are unexpected revenues and is easiest to track there. We will provide more information to you about the $1,093,546.

Councilmember Kelley asked has the City received any federal or state matching grants this fiscal year?

City Manager Freeman said the City received confirmation of approval for the Emergency 911 Backup for example, but has not received award documentation to be brought forward to Council.

Councilmember Kelley said did the City receive federal or state matching grants for FY2025?

City Manager Freeman said yes. There is a breakdown of grant awards in Inside Sandy Springs. We will review the dollar amounts and provide more information to you. Also, there is a Grants Fund within the budget for grants received.

General Fund Revenues – Summary and Total
Revised FY2026 vs Proposed FY2027

Revenues	2026 Revised	2026 Projected *	2027 Proposed	Variance	% Change
Taxes	$ 115,580,000	$ 128,797,497	$ 124,510,000	$ 8,930,000	8%
Licenses and Permits	$ 3,112,000	$ 4,724,434	$ 3,396,000	$ 284,000	9%
Charges for Services	$ 500,000	$ 688,390	$ 791,200	$ 10,000	58%
Other Revenues	$ 12,000,529	$ 13,145,722	$ 11,771,400	$ (229,129)	-2%
Total	$ 131,192,529	$ 147,356,043	$ 140,468,600	$ 8,994,871	7%

Councilmember Kelley asked what fiscal year were the impact fees received for the Embassy Row Project?

City Manager Freeman said this information will be provided to you.

Budget Workshop Questions

Speed Detection Devices– Legislative Changes
House Bill 651

• Cities may further restrict current hours by local ordinance or resolution
• Creates new penalties for intentional misuse of automated enforcement (including unauthorized citations)
• Cities may not enter into/renew any contract to enforce speeding in a school zone through automated traffic enforcement safety devices unless voters have first approved that enforcement method in a local referendum
Effective July 1, 2027
RedSpeed contract expires June 30, 2026

Mayor Paul said this has a major impact on speeding through school zones and people are more aware of it than they were. The City's revenue may decline as people get used to it, but it is effective.

Councilmember Ford asked what is the length of the contract?

City Manager Freeman said it would be one plus four one-year renewals. This is the current contract ending on June 30, 2026.

Councilmember Ford asked when would the first referendum be in 2028 or five years out?

City Manager Freeman said five years out.

Councilmember Ford said it is valuable safety measure worth continuing. This made an impact if people are paying more attention.

Councilmember Kelley said I am opposed to renewing this contract, particularly now that the state legislature has taken this posture toward it. It would be irresponsible to have a renewal before the effective date. I received countless emails and interactions in the community from frustrated people about the cameras, signage, and hours. People have also complained that it is unclear how to contest an issue. This is for example with the speed cameras at North Springs High School. At least the state government is giving voters an opportunity to choose this method.

Councilmember Mular asked did the bill state what the funds will be used for?

City Manager Freeman said it is still in the current law and funds must be used for law enforcement training or equipment.

Councilmember Mular asked will it go to the General Fund?

City Manager Freeman said yes, but is earmarked for law enforcement.

Councilmember Mular asked does the bill include some points about lights?

City Manager Freeman said yes.

Councilmember Mular said the concern is people thought the lights were on only when the cameras were on, and that is not true. The lights are on in the morning and in the afternoon. The bill states that anytime the cameras are on, the lights now have to be on.

City Manager Freeman said that is correct.

Councilmember Mular said when this first started, there was an issue with the signage, and some repeat offenders, but there have been no issues for some time. People may be used to it and there is better signage. It also has an intended reduction in speeding.

Councilmember Paulson said I am in favor of this. It is worth it if it slows somebody down and keeps somebody from getting hit.

Councilmember Mular asked if it is not renewed before June 30, would it be on the November ballot?

City Manager Freeman said no. We will need to authorize a voter referendum to be on the ballot because these provisions are not effective until July 1, 2027.

Mayor Paul said the earliest is March, 2028 because the presidential primary. In the meantime, the City's contract would expire then we would have the opportunity to do it. The City Council also has the authority to change the hours to when school is starting and ending rather than throughout the day.

Councilmember Mular asked could this be changed before?

City Manager Freeman said that was a contract provision. The hours can be set with a new contract.

Councilmember Kelley said although I am opposed, we should negotiate everything that can be to avoid confusing people. If this contract is renewed, is it required to be brought to voters in a referendum in 2028?

City Manager Freeman said not if the negotiated contract has successive automatic renewals, like the current one.

Councilmember Kelley said I am also opposed to successive automatic renewals in the contract. If we renew, at least voters should have the opportunity in 2028.

Councilmember Chinsky said the contract should be renewed and put on the ballot in 2028. The new signage is helpful, but based on feedback received, Public Works should continue to improve it. This is because there are times of the year when the sun blocks signage and makes it difficult to see.

City Manager Freeman asked are you in favor of bringing forward a renewal for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027?

Councilmember Chinsky said yes.

Councilmember Mular asked would this renewal be a renewal of the existing terms or could there be a change on the hours?

City Manager Freeman said it would be new contract because we the old contract is ending.

Mayor Paul said it provides the opportunity to set the hours.

Councilmember Mular said I would be in favor of setting the hours and renewing prior to June 30, 2027.

Councilmember Frank Roberts asked are the cameras operating during school hours?

City Manager Freeman said yes. During negotiation of the contract, the cameras were to operate the entire time that school was in session. The speed limit would change to 25 miles during intake and exodus from school, and then during it would be the normal speed limit.

Councilmember Roberts said in my law enforcement career, 10 miles over was allowed in state law. In school zones, it should be before school starts and before it ends. You are taking a chance if going over the speed limit in between those hours.

Mayor Paul said there is consensus that the contract must have some changes.

Total RedSpeed Reported Revenue
(as of May 15, 2026)

Location	Total Number of Transactions	Total Amount Paid
E/B North Springs High School	2,843	$ 238,295
W/B North Springs High School	1,530	$ 126,980
E/B Riverwood International Charter School	983	$ 178,762
W/B Riverwood International Charter School	1,163	$ 97, 590
Total	7,519	$ 641,627

- Total amount paid includes the full citation fine and $5 processing fee
  - COSS receives 65% of revenue
  - Estimated amount collected by COSS - $392,621
- Total Outstanding Citations (as of May 13): 15,647
  - Assuming all 1 st citation - $1,173,525
  - Estimated amount for COSS - $762,791

Councilmember Roberts asked how much does the City Pay RedSpeed for their service?

City Manager Freeman said the City receives 65% and RedSpeed receives 35% plus a $5 processing fee.

Councilmember Paulson said there is over $1,000,000 in outstanding citation. What is the aging on those?

City Manager Freeman said this information can be provided to you.

Councilmember Kelley asked how much is RedSpeed making from the community and is projected to make with the outstanding citations?

City Manager Freeman said this information can be provided to you.

Councilmember Paulson said please also include information on how this has changed over time.

Councilmember Kelley said there must be other ways to enforce speeding as the numbers are outrageous.

Morgan Falls Football Field Usage

- Sandy Springs Youth Sports oversees use of the Morgan Falls Athletic Complex under the City's MOU
- The field is used for flag football and cheerleading from August through October
- For the remainder of the year, it is converted into three baseball and softball fields

Councilmember Chinsky said please consider shade structures over the stands based on feedback received. Also, how can the City increase mobility and accessibility to get to the fields?

Brent Walker, Director of Recreation and Parks said an ADA assessment of the site was done, and we integrated that into this next iteration of construction. There will be an access ramp, reconfiguring of the parking lot for accessible access on the lower fields, and a new ramp down to field five.

Councilmember Roberts asked if there are any plans to upgrade the field for high schools or private schools to play on.

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said per state standards, there must be indoor facilities for inclement weather to house both teams, and we do not have this. Also, there must be accommodations for both home and visitor stands with sideline availability on both sides of the field, and it is not large enough to accommodate that.

Councilmember Roberts asked can the field be expanded?

Mayor Paul said it is constrained there because of the topography, and it drops off significantly on all sides of that field.

Councilmember Chinsky said parking is an issue for the fields. One bottleneck is when cars park on the side of the road leading out to the park. Can there be spots to show people how far they need to pull up on the curb and not block traffic?

Brent Walker, Director of Recreation and Parks said we will reconfigure the upper parking lot, expand the lower parking lot, and more to accommodate one hundred additional parking spaces as part of the new plan.

Councilmember Roberts asked what sports are played on the field?

Brent Walker, Director of Recreation and Parks said the field is used for baseball, softball, and cheerleading for both girls and boys.

Councilmember Roberts asked what is available for the high school age group?

Brent Walker, Director of Recreation and Parks said there some adult athletic programs like kickball and softball in the evenings. We have other fields for soccer and football, but the plan for the artificial turf field will open up the programming ability of those spaces.

Current Tree Fund Balance

• Projected end-of-year bank account/fund balance

-$1,210,906.29 current amount (May 5, 2026)

-End-of-year estimated at $602,705.16 after removing payroll and the amount promised to projects

Councilmember Mular asked will the tree replanting be in he fall?

Brent Walker, Director of Recreation and Parks said yes.

Councilmember Mular asked with the Hammond Widening Project, will there be an estimate of what is coming from the Tree Fund?

City Manager Freeman said an estimate is not available yet.

Councilmember Kelley asked how many employees are on the payroll?

Kristen Byars Smith, Assistant City Manager, said this is one half of the salary of Urban Forester and Sustainability Coordinator's position.

Councilmember Kelley asked if this is an example of using one-time fees to pay an operating expense.

Assistant City Manager Byars Smith said no. It is recurring revenues the City receives every year.

Front Yard Tree Program

• Coordinated and administered by Trees Atlanta, the city's nonprofit partner for urban forestry and tree planting initiatives.
• Trees Atlanta program costs are fully funded through the organization's own fundraising, grants, and other non -city revenue sources.
• The City of Sandy Springs funds the implementation of the program within the city limits, including city project management, tree procurement facilitation, and volunteer coordination.
• Each address may be eligible for up to 3 trees

• River Birch
• Tulip Poplar
• Sycamore
• White Oak
• Overcup Oak
• Shumard Oak
• Willow Oak
• Nutall Oak
• Bald Cypress
• Tupelo

Summary of the Trees Atlanta Program

Planting Season	FYT Program	ROW Planting	Total Number of Trees	Total Cost
2025 – 2026	77	--	77	$ 25,025
2024 – 2025	57	--	57	$ 17,100
2023 – 2024	55	95	150	$ 37,500
2022 – 2023	223	--	223	$ 55,750
2021 – 2022	265	--	265	$ 66,250
2020 – 2021	--	252	252	$ 49,665
2019 - 2020	147	138	285	$ 31,740*
Total	824	485	1,309	283,030

Councilmember Mular asked when people come for permits for scraping trees, can the City discuss the Front Yard Program with them?

Assistant City Manager Byars Smith said they could potentially be candidates, but they are also required to replant many trees. However, we can consider this idea.

Recreation and Parks Scholarships

• Scholarships are essentially fee waivers for our own programming, reimbursed annually from the Recreation and Parks Scholarship Fund
• Balance in the account $8,914
FY26 Donations
$500 - Dunwoody Women's Club
$485 - the Sandy Springs Foundation

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Scholarships Amount	$ 472.50	$ 552.50	$ 420	$ 510
Total Participants	12	14	10	12

Councilmember Kelley asked how is the Recreation and Parks Scholarship Fund labeled in the financials?

Toni Carlisle, Chief Financial Officer, said it is a part of the operating account reconciliation and is not specifically listed in the financials. The amount can be provided to you.

Recreation and Parks Programming Requests

• Programs with active wait lists due to high demand
Daddy Daughter Dance, Dino Egg Hunt, Mother Son Dance, Explorer Summer Camp, Sports Summer Camp, and the Snow Day Movie Matinee
• Requirements to expand programming beyond what is currently produced
-Access to larger facilities, a dedicated community center, and/or dedicated time in the performing arts center spaces (reducing revenue earning capacity for PAC or increasing cost to produce events to the City)

-Additional cost of program supplies and part-time staffing support
-Additional full-time staff may be needed
Managed by a single full-time staff member

Councilmember Ford asked if an additional staff member was added to the current budget.

Assistant City Manager Byars Smith said no.

Councilmember Paulson asked if the City charges a cost to attend the programs.

Assistant City Manager Byars Smith said yes, but it is low. We can provide an event-by-event calculation. Also, space is a limiting factor.

City Manager Freeman said cost will need to increase to not take revenue opportunities away from the Performing Arts Center (PAC).

Assistant City Manager Byars Smith said currently recreation programs are not paying for the space PAC provides. Also, there is no room for outdoor events like the Dino Egg Hunt for example, and we would need more dates and times.

Councilmember Kelley asked are the programs listed included in Sandy Springs Foundation fundraising efforts, specifically sponsorships?

Assistant City Manager Byars Smith said no.

Councilmember Kelley said there may be interest in sponsoring to offset expenses, for instance with Mother Son Dance.

Bathroom Inventory

• Four of the park facility restrooms have been renovated this year with new changing tables
  -Hammond Park
  -Morgan Falls Athletic Complex
  -Morgan Falls Overlook Park
  -Sandy Springs Racquet Center
  -Ridgeview Park (new restroom facility in permitting)
• Changing tables will be installed in all restroom facilities that can accommodate them
• Park restrooms are cleaned once daily by cleaning contractors

Councilmember Kelley asked for more information on changing tables at City Springs

Dave Wells, Director of Facilities/Capital Construction and Building Operations, said there are changing tables in the Studio Theatre and in bathroom on City Green for instance.

Springway 2C Potential Funding Overview

Total Cost		$ 13,922,520
Estimated Cost for Construction (May 2026)	$ 12,728,200	
10% Contingency	$ 1,264,320	
Current Funding in P2501		$ 4,995,775
Available Recreation Impact Fees		$ 4,294,648
Total Potential Funding		$ 6,030,000
FY 2027 Capital Budget Proposal	$ 2,000,000	
GOSP Grant (if awarded)	$ 3,000,000	
PATH Foundation Matching Funds (GOSP Grant)	$ 1,000,000	
Sandy Springs Conservancy Matching Funds (GOSP Grant)	$ 30,000	
Total Funding Needed (Without GOSP and Match Funding)		**$ 2,632,097**

Councilmember Mular asked what is the probability of the City receiving the GOSP grant?

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said in the previous application, the City received good scores in some of the criteria, but there were areas to improve. The City met most of the criteria in the last application but needed to improve the narrative. We are working with PATH and will address those values in the design. When we apply in October, we can show those point values through native plantings, wildlife, programming, and more.

Councilmember Ford asked how long has the City contributed funding to P2501?

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said this project was created in 2025 based on other trail funds over the years, specifically for 2C.

Councilmember Chinsky asked if any criteria for the GOSP grant is based on user experience or only aesthetics.

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said there are several criteria, for example, environmental, programming, user which includes demographics or population density in the area. The different components of the application are assigned to various experts to score thoroughly.

Councilmember Chinsky asked does the City need to allocate funds in the capital budget to be eligible for the other grants?

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said no. Matching funds are available but more funding is needed given the cost.

Councilmember Paulson asked what is the estimated cost of $13,922,520 based on?

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said a 30% plan set.

Councilmember Paulson said $2,000,000 will not be spent by next June. Do funds need to be allocated for next year or can we wait to receive GOSP and PATH?

City Manager Freeman said the intent is to gather funds over time and provide partial funding every year.

Mayor Paul said skipping a year could have an impact.

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said more geotechnical work will be done and we are working through access points for the boardwalk. We are building from the ground up in a lot of areas which will cost less.

Councilmember Mular asked can the $2,000,0000 be reallocated at any time during the year if needed?

City Manager Freeman said yes.

Councilmember Mular asked whether it is $1,000,000 or 0 what do we do with that money?

City Manager Freeman said it is invested. Money goes into the CIP and earns revenue in the form of interest.

Councilmember Mular said unless funds are allocated to what is agreed on, it is holding in different places.

City Manager Freeman said Council can decide if to put $2,000,000 there or leave it in the fund balance reserve and not appropriate it to any specific projects.

Councilmember Mular said this is expensive and there are 31 miles to build and we only have 1.88. We do not have a good capital strategy of how to fund it all. Without incremental funds, we are not going to continue to make progress.

Mayor Paul said funds can be reallocated for other purposes. This ensures building the incremental fund to pay for the project.

Councilmember Paulson asked is the GOSP grant awarded based on if the extra $2,000,000 is put in?

Director of Recreation and Parks Walker said as long as there are matching funds.

Councilmember Kelley said there is about $11,000,000 in the 5-year CIP towards Trail Segment 2C construction. There is $5,000,000 for FY2027 and $4,000,000 for FY2028. It will be interesting to see how much General Fund dollars go towards this construction project.

Future presentations for Trail Segment 2C should include the challenges outside of the trail itself. Current crash data at the intersection at Grogan Ferry Roswell Road should be provided. Also, a detailed update on the Adair Lane sidewalks. In addition, information from the National Park Service states there are ecological health considerations at this part of the river to include drinking water, recreation, and fishing. This investment is in an area that does not have sidewalks and is along a waterway that has ecological health issues. We should consider a holistic approach when moving forward with the Trail Master Plan.

Councilmember Chinsky said my constituents are frustrated on the lack of progress on some projects started by the City and we should consider that we are allocating $13,000,000 towards another trail project.

Councilmember Ford said it is priority for me to create a safe walkable community where people are already walking. My sidewalks of interest are already on the Sidewalk Master Plan and it would be great to provide the status if my constituents ask.

City Manager Freeman said an update on the Sidewalk Master Plan can be provided.

Mayor Paul said there is about $20,000,000 in T-SPLOST set aside for sidewalks. The challenge is Fulton County did not require sidewalks. It is expensive to retrofit sidewalks and more into a mature community. If people want sidewalks, it will help significantly to donate the right-of-way at the minimum.

City Manager Freeman said with the second phase of Brandon Mill Road, property owners donated right-of-way and the City paid for some incremental cost to cure there.

Councilmember Paulson said we need to consider more efficient ways to build sidewalks so that dollars go towards more sidewalks.

City Manager Freeman said this is in progress.

City Springs Theater Company

January – December 2025

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Load In/Out and Rehearsal Days	0	0	11	8	7	0	0	7	4	0	0	5	37
Dark Days	0	0	3	1	4	0	0	0	5	0	0	3	16
Performance Days	0	0	15	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	15	56
Total	0	0	29	9	19	0	0	7	22	0	0	23	109

2026 YTD

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTAL
Load In/Out and Rehearsal Days	0	0	11	9	1	21
Dark Days	0	0	3	0	4	7
Performance Days	0	0	13	0	13	26
Total	0	0	27	9	18	54

Cost of 2026 Sparkle Village Houses (26 Houses)

Construction	Paint	Prize Ribbons	Total Cost
$ 16,200	$ 2,728	$ 305	$ 19,243

MRH Program Compliance

Category	2024	2025	% Change
Completed All required Inspection CBI by March 31 Deadline	28	72	157%
December 31 Deadline Citations	73	26	-64%
Round 1 of Citations	64	35	-45%
Round 2 of Citations	23	--	-100%
Code Citations	34	22	-35%

Public Works Subcontractor Agreements

Vendor	**Service**	**FY2026**	**FY 2027**	**Percent Change**
AWP	Traffic Sign Maint/Control, Road Closure, Special Events	$ 611,000	$ 661,000	0%
Blount Construction	Stormwater	$ 741,000	$ 755,000	2%
Blount Construction	Street and Sidewalk Maintenance	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,535,000	2%
Georgia Green	ROW Mowing	$ 605,000	$ 612,000	1%
Lumin8	Traffic Signal, ITS, Fiber Maint/Repair/Installation	$ 938,000	$ 1,011,000	8%
PateCo	Street Sweeping	$ 210,000	$ 210,000	0%
Tidwell Traffic Solution	Pavement Markings	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	0%
Sesmas, Gunnison, and Richmond	ROW Tree Removal	$ 375,000	$ 375,000	0%
Procutters	Right Of Way Litter Pickup and Animal Removal	$ 500,000	$ 520,000	4%
Hyper Networks	Utility Marking Services for GA 811 Requirements	$ 88,000	$ 240,000	173%
United Land Service Interstate	I -285 and SR -400 Shoulder Mowing	$ 105,000	$ 80,000	-24%
Ashford Gardens	Island Maintenance and Mowing	$ 300,000	$ 40,000	87%
	Total	**$ 6,123,000**	**$ 6,189,000**	**1%**

Councilmember Paulson asked why does Hyer Networks have a large increase?

William Martin, Public Works Director, said most of the increase is due to contractor marking due to utility strikes and more.

Councilmember Paulson asked will this need to be done again?

Public Works Director Martin said it is a short-term cost this year and maybe another year.

Mayor Paul said many utility lines have been hit and we need a better understanding of where these varied utilities are located.

Councilmember Kelley asked if the difference for Public Works Subcontractor Agreements from Budget Workshop 1 is $295,000.

City Manager Freeman said the numbers are refined in this budget process to ensure the most current projections on both incoming revenue and expenditures.

Office of Innovation and Delivery

• Led by a Chief Innovation Officer, a three-person team in the City Manager's Office that coordinates a focused portfolio of 8–12 high-priority, cross -department projects
• Provide a single, up-to-date view of enterprise projects for the City Manager and Council
• Runs an innovation pipeline that tests ideas quickly, retires what does not work, and hands successful pilots to departments for long-term ownership
• Align grant pursuits, data work, and responsible AI adoption with Council priorities and the capital program, tying analytics to real outcomes

<u>Internal Benefits</u>

• Provides Council with a clear, up-to-date picture of major cross-department projects, including status and risks tied to adopted priorities
• Gives department directors and project leads a single point of coordination for cross-department work, reducing duplicate effort and error
• Creates a clear path for staff-generated ideas to be tested through short pilots, with structure and support instead of "side-of-desk" experiments
• Connects grants, data, and AI capacity directly to project teams, so staff have better information and funding support when delivering priorities

<u>External Benefits</u>

• Increases the likelihood that high-profile projects are delivered on time, on budget, and with clearer communication to the community
• Connects data and AI, strategically designing and adjusting resident-facing projects
• Improves coordination across departments, leading to a more seamless experience for residents interacting with city services
• Strengthens the City's ability to compete for and manage grants

Mayor Paul said this important. When the City switched from a contractor-driven to a traditional form of government, some flexibility and incentives that the private sector has were lost. This includes the innovative solutions to problems. This will rebuild that process that was there at inception of this City. In addition, the City needs to be on the cutting edge of AI tools to strengthen and protect data and capitalize on all emerging technologies that will be transformational.

Councilmember Paulson asked for periodic reports to be provided.

City Manager Freeman said this office is responsible for all performance management efforts and there will be many reports.

Councilmember Mular said consider matrixing some activities into the existing departments participating in projects to change how work is done. There should be a tradeoff. Is there any anticipated growth?

City Manager Freeman said each department will have direct connection with the Office of Innovation and Delivery. For long-term anticipated growth, a three-person FTE is appropriate to test the model and work deliverables from here. In about five years, an analyst or an intern position may be included within the department as well.

Councilmember Mular said hopefully the dashboard will show how effective this office is and we can correct if something different is needed. If we do not have innovation, we will fall behind.

Councilmember Kelley asked how long it will take to determine if this office is effective.

City Manager Freeman said this is project based. This office will push the City's major enterprise-wide projects to make sure that not only innovation, but also that the project is completed on time and under budget. The goal is for this office to be successful and show a real value to the City.

Councilmember Kelley asked is there a baseline to determine if projects are on time and under budget? There are occasional change orders for instance but to what extent are there overruns?

City Manager Freeman said they are not significant but there are a few extenuating circumstances with capital projects coming through T-SPLOST, and require an extension. Negotiating right-of-way is time-consuming process and increases time to a capital project. The goal to be more software-oriented and help Staff deliver projects in a modern environment though there are unpredictable economic considerations.

Councilmember Kelley asked how long have the Grant Administrator role and the Director of Data Strategy roles existed?

City Manager Freeman said both roles were reconstituted two budget cycles ago. The exact dates can be provided to you.

Councilmember Kelley asked more information on the impact of the two positions. For example, was there an increase in the number of grants due to the Grant Administrator position?

City Manager Freeman said yes. This information is available on Inside Sandy Springs.

Councilmember Mular said consider a presentation to Council to understand what has changed since then.

Homeless Outreach and Referral Services

- There are roughly 13 individuals experiencing homelessness in the community
- The population fluctuates drastically depending on the movement through the community
- SSPD Victim Advocates are usually the primary point of contact
    - -Additional referrals to hospital social workers, Community Assistance Center, Solidarity Sandy Springs, and other nonprofit partners based on need
    - -Referrals may include help with medical issues, documents needed for employment, food, clothing, housing stability, and other support services
    - -Community Paramedicine Program provides non-emergency care directly to individuals and supports people with limited access to medical care
- Housing needs are referred to the Fulton County Assessment Center / Gateway Center
- Under SDS, County is responsible for providing services

Georgia Rehoused

• After review, City staff does not recommend pursuing the Georgia Rehoused program at this time
-The local need is limited, with approximately a dozen unsheltered individuals
-A stand-alone program would likely create greater administrative burden than measurable service impact
-The City already invests in experienced nonprofit partners to provide services
-The City is better positioned to support partner organizations rather than serve as the primary grant recipient
-A strong grant application would be for communities with a large local demand, where service gaps exist, and if shelter and housing options are unavailable

Councilmember Mular said this provides clarity on what the City currently does. Thank you Sandy Spring Police Department for your efforts and for helping as best as possible.

FY 2027 Capital Budget Assumptions

Fund	**Department**	**Project**	**FY 2027**
General Fund	Communications	Interior Art Program	$ 60,000
General Fund	Economic Development	Facade Improvement Program	$ 500,000
General Fund	Emergency Mgmt	Emergency Access System (Gated Communities)	$ 50,000
Grant	Facilities Management	Back Up 911 Center (Federal Community Project Funding)	$ 3,050,000
General Fund	Facilities Management	City Springs District Improvements	$ 2,400,000
General Fund	Facilities Management	Emergency Operations Center Video Wall Replacement	$ 250,000
General Fund	Facilities Management	Facilities Maintenance	$ 500,000
General Fund	Facilities Management	Heritage Lawn Stream Buffer Remediation and Park Renovation	$ 1,000,000
General Fund	Facilities Management	Office Modification (Office of Innovation and Delivery and the Performing Arts Center)	$ 300,000
General Fund	Fire Department	Active Shooter PPE	$ 100,000
General Fund	Fire Department	Fire Equipment Replacement	$ 100,000
General Fund	Fire Department	Firefighter Turn Out Gear / PPE	$ 200,000
Fleet Fund	Fleet Management	Fire Administrative Vehicles (2 -3/yr)	$ 150,000
Fleet Fund	Fleet Management	Police Fleet Replacement	$ 1,250,000
Fleet Fund	Fleet Management	Public Works Vehicle Replacement	$ 40,000
Fleet Fund	Fleet Management	Rec and Parks Vehicles	$ 251,500
General Fund	Information Services	Infrastructure Hardware Replacement	$ 710,000
General Fund	Information Services	Workstation Replacement and Upgrades	$ 110,000
General Fund	Innovation Citywide	CRM Upgrade	$ 1,000,000
Sandy Springs Police Foundation	Police Department	Driving Simulator	$ 100,000
General Fund	Police Department	Driving Simulator	$ 100,000

FY 2027 Capital Budget Assumptions

Fund	Department	Project	FY 2027
General Fund	Police Department	Firearms and Sight System Upgrade	$ 175,000
General Fund	Police Department	InVeris FATS 300 Upgrades	$ 84,800
General Fund	Police Department	Police Ammunition	$ 125,000
General Fund	Police Department	Police K-9 Replacement	$ 50,000
General Fund	Police Department	SWAT Gear and Equipment	$ 70,000
General Fund	Public Works	ATMS -5	$ 100,000
General Fund	Public Works	Bridge and Dam Maintenance Program	$ 300,000
General Fund	Public Works	City Beautification Program	$ 135,000
Impact Fees	Public Works	City Center Transportation Network (Boylston Rd)	$ 30,000.00
General Fund	Public Works	Glenridge Drive Sidepath Gap Fill	$ 150,000
PCID	Public Works	Glenridge Drive Sidepath Gap Fill (PCID)	$ 150,000
General Fund	Public Works	Guardrail Replacement Program	$ 250,000
General Fund	Public Works	Internally Illuminated Street Name Signs (IISNS) Rehab	$ 160,000
General Fund	Public Works	Intersection and Operational Improvements	$ 500,000
General Fund	Public Works	Lake Forrest Drive - Allen Road Intersection Improvement	$ 1,000,000
General Fund	Public Works	Lake Forrest Drive Emergency Repair	$ 200,000
General Fund	Public Works	Neighborhood Street Lighting Program	$ 14,600
General Fund	Public Works	Nesbit Ferry Lane and Spalding Intersection	$ 500,000
Impact Fees	Public Works	Old Riverside Drive Parkway	$ 110,000.00
General Fund	Public Works	Pavement Management Program	$ 3,000,000
Partial LMIG	Public Works	Pavement Management Program (LMIG)	$ 1,160,000
Partial LMIG	Public Works	Pavement Management Program (LRA)	$ 1,000,000
General Fund	Public Works	PCID – Glenridge Connector at Johnson Ferry Road Intersection Improvement	$ 370,000

FY 2027 Capital Budget Assumptions

Fund	Department	Project	FY 2027
General Fund	Public Works	Peachtree Dunwoody Road Gap Fill Sidewalk (PCID)	$ 100,000
PCID	Public Works	Peachtree Dunwoody Raod Gap Fill Sidewalk (PCID)	$ 200,000
General Fund	Public Works	Roswell Rd Safety Project (Cliftwood/Carpenter Drive to Hammond Drive)	$ 500,000
General Fund	Public Works	Sandy Springs Circle (Johnson Ferry to Roswell Rd) Multi Use Path Improvements	$ 500,000
Stormwater	Public Works	Stormwater Capital Improvements (Design & Construction)	$ 4,000,000
Stormwater	Public Works	Stormwater Operation	$ 650,000
General Fund	Public Works	TMC Fiber Program	$ 798,000
General Fund	Public Works	Traffic Calming	$ 100,000
General Fund	Public Works	Traffic Management Program	$ 1,142,500
General Fund	Rec & Parks	Abernathy Arts Center Playground Replacement	$ 300,000
General Fund	Rec & Parks	Heritage Playground	$ 500,000
General Fund	Rec & Parks	Morgan Falls Athletic Complex	$ 2,000,000
Contribution	Rec & Parks	Racquet Center - Groslimond Annual Capital Contributions	$ 24,000

General Fund	Rec & Parks	Trail Segment 2C Construction	$ 2,000,000
Tree Fund	Rec & Parks	Tree Fund Capital Projects	$ 300,000
Tree Fund	Rec & Parks	Tree Fund Education	$ 25,000
Tree Fund	Rec & Parks	Tree Fund Invasives	$ 50,000
Tree Fund	Rec & Parks	Tree Fund Maintenance	$ 175,000
Tree Fund	Rec & Parks	Tree Fund Surveys	$ 15,000
Tree Fund	Rec & Parks	Tree Fund Trees ATL	$ 40,000
		Total	**$ 35,275,400**

Toni Carlisle, Chief Financial Officer, said there was an inquiry about miscellaneous income being $1,000,000 this year versus the budget of $200,000. Georgia Power audited invoices and the City received $393,000. In addition to the gain on sale of the property at North Island, the City recognized $493,000. This totals to about $893,000 of the $1,000,000 in that account. There was another inquiry about the impact fees received from Embassy Row which was $1,652,000 received in June FY2025

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Approved: July 21, 2026

__________________________________ __________________________________

Russell K. Paul, Mayor — Raquel D. González, City Clerk