

For Immediate Release

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Community invited to participate in Ventura's next city budget workshop

Ventura Calif. – The City of Ventura will host the next public meeting about the Fiscal Year 2022 – 23 budget at the City Council Meeting on May 31, 2022. City Manager Alex D. McIntyre and Chief Finance Officer Michael Coon will lead the final adoption presentation.

At a special City Council meeting on May 3, City staff presented the \$397.2 million Proposed Operating and Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 – 23. The City's fiscal year begins July 1.

"The budget is the most important policy document the City produces annually. Each year, City staff spends months preparing an annual budget that reflects the City's economic environment, fiscal condition, and priority needs. This is a public process where community members are encouraged to get involved and provide input," said City Manager McIntyre. "Thanks to your City Council's leadership, we have a balanced budget, which will provide high-quality services to our community."

One important aspect of the budget is the purposed expenditures of the voter approved Measure O tax. The City continues to provide a spending plan to support core services and make visible changes within our community as part of Measure O, which provides a 25-year one-half percent transaction and use tax. Since 2016, over \$50.5 million in Measure O funds have assisted in completing or ongoing maintenance of more than 60 Citywide operational and infrastructural projects. Measure O continues to provide funding for street resurfacing, sidewalk improvements, the ARCH, Ventura Fire Station 4, and various police positions. Additionally, Measure O funds projects like ADA improvements on the westside of Ventura and the coastal shoreline preservation project at Surfer's Point.

The City's proposed budget book is intended to address many different audiences, both internally and externally. It serves as a policy document, financial plan, operational guide, and a communication device," said Chief Finance Officer Michael Coon. "It has been formatted to enhance readability and provide users with extractable sections that can stand independently."

Community members can attend upcoming public meetings to get involved or share feedback. The budget's final adoption is proposed for the City Council meeting on June 13.

To learn more about projects and priorities identified, see the Fiscal Year 2022 – 23 Proposed Budget on the City's financial transparency webpage at www.cityofventura.ca.gov/FinancialTransparency.

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