# **Your Tax Dollars**

## 1. Do you know where your property tax dollars go?

Your property taxes help fund the operations of many different entities, not just the City of Parkland. The City is one part (23%) of your total tax bill. Every November 1 Broward County mails out property tax bills. This bill is for a variety of services that

were available over the past year, meaning you are paying your taxes "in arrears."

#### The taxes you pay go to 7 different entities:

- The School Board
- Broward County
- Broward Hospital
- Children's Services Council
- Florida Inland Navigation District
- South Florida Water Management District
- The City of Parkland.



Where Your Tax Dollars Go

You can also see where your money goes by looking at your TRIM (Truth in Millage) Notice which is mailed out by Broward County Property Appraiser (BCPA) Marty Kiar every August.



# 2. Doesn't the State pay for everything?

No. Cities, school districts, the counties, hospitals, and other public institutions have to generate revenue from a wide range of sources. Remember, the State of Florida does <u>not</u> have a state income tax. The State gets most of its revenue from the tourist and construction industries through sales taxes, use taxes and other charges for services. Some of these sales and use taxes and fees are shared with the public institutions. Several of the shared revenues from the State are restricted to specific uses.

## 3. The average Parkland home\* pays about \$225 per month to the City in taxes.

How much is your cell phone bill each month? Most homeowners pay more for their cell phones than for all of the services the City provides - police protection, fire rescue, parks, roads, street lights, recreation programs, and events, to name a few.

\* 2023 Average Single Family Home Taxable Value per BCPA = \$630,000

\$630,0000/1,000\*4.2979 Parkland millage rate = \$2,700 <u>annual</u> property tax paid to the City

### 4. What does the City do with your tax dollars?

Your tax dollars go into the City's General Fund, our primary operating fund. Your tax dollars count for about 57% of the total dollars the City receives each year, with the rest coming from a wide range of sources, like utility fees and taxes, licenses and permits, State-shared revenues, and charges for services. Almost half of the General Fund (43.5%) goes to paying for Police and Fire services. The other half keeps the entire City operating at a high level of service - parks open, fields groomed, streets and sidewalks in good repair, construction standards enforced.



The City uses your tax dollars to provide a wide range of services. Events are put on year-round. Sports and recreation is available for all ages. Families have after-school, summer, and school holiday child care options. Seniors have access to special trips and programs. Crossing guards are posted at busy intersections, paid for by the City. The City operates its own library - free to residents. Sensory maps and social scripts for individuals on the autism spectrum are available to navigate City facilities. Contributions are made to charitable organizations that provide services to our residents. All of these programs, activities, events, and resources are made possible through your tax dollars.

## 5. How can you find out more?

Taxes, budgets, financial reports - boring stuff. We get it. Behind all of that are real people who want to explain it to you. We are your neighbors. We want to help you understand and appreciate how your tax dollars keep this City great. In fact, every year we host a Resident Budget workshop in August just for this purpose and you are welcome to visit us at City Hall throughout the year. All of those reports are always available for your viewing pleasure at cityofparkland.org/budget.