The City budget consists of three components:

- General Fund: $77.0 million
- Restricted Funds: $28.9 million
- Capital Budget: $11.0 million

For a Total of $116.9 million

The City’s General Fund is used to account for most City operations: police, fire, libraries, parks and recreation and other community services.

City Council adopted three key initiatives with this year’s budget:

- Youth crime and gang violence prevention
- Prosperity
- Organizational effectiveness

Where does the City get the Money?

General Fund - $77.0 million
A reduction of $8.6 million from last year

How does the City spend the Money?
Depressed home prices and high unemployment means reduced government revenues for Salinas and other local governments.

The City of Salinas FY 2010-2011 budget eliminated 95.5 positions which meant layoffs of 40 existing staff.

Over a two year period, City employees have made $12 million in concessions through furloughs, pay reductions, deferrals of salary, and contributions to health benefits.

Reduced City Revenue Forces Major Cuts in Recreation Services

Due to the significant reduction in revenue the City has cut services in the 2010-2011 budget. To preserve Public Safety, the largest reduction was made in Parks and Recreation. Major changes to Parks and Recreation are:

- The municipal pool will be operated by Salinas Valley Aquatics and remains open to the public.
- The Firehouse Recreation Center will be operated by Go Kids, Inc. and all services remain available to the public.
- City will provide only a minimum level of after school programs at other City recreation centers.
- City has eliminated funding to four school districts for after school programs.
- Sherwood Hall and the Community Center are available only for special events to community groups at cost.

Other Service Changes and Reductions

New garbage contract with BFI. Residential rates will increase by $1.00 per week under new garbage contract.

City has reduced maintenance at all 48 parks from 7 days to 4 days per week.

City has eliminated staff support for most neighborhood services, i.e., block parties, etc.

Fire:

- Eliminate 6 vacant positions and reorganize department to cover minimum staffing requirements
- Contract out Fire Marshall services
- Eliminate Explorer/Apprentice program

Engineering, Planning & Permit Services:

- Worked with Business Development Taskforce to restructure department, eliminating 21 vacant positions over two years. As demand increases, City will contract out work.

Code Enforcement:

- Eliminate 2 positions will delay City response to code enforcement issues.

Police:

- Police Department lobby open only M-F (8am—5pm). Phone available at front entrance to call County Dispatch for after-hours service.
- Animal Control Services no longer available on weekends and holidays. Shelter remains open T-S (noon to 5pm).
- Eliminate Crossing Guard program at all three elementary school districts
- Eliminate Police Cadet Program
- Eliminate police response to minor non-injury traffic collisions, civil matters and low priority calls.
- Reassign police to Patrol and Investigation to meet ‘mission critical’ functions.

Library:

- Reorganize department to maintain seven (7) days a week service.

Other:

- Eliminate City newsletter & limited web page

Over a two year period, City employees have made $12 million in concessions through furloughs, pay reductions, deferrals of salary, and contributions to health benefits.
The City needs to focus on increasing businesses and jobs for long term fiscal stability.

Sales & Measure V Tax

The sales tax rate in the City of Salinas is 8.75% or $8.75 for every $100 purchase.

Of that, the City of Salinas gets $1.00 for regular City sales tax and $0.50 for Measure V sales tax.

Property Tax

The City of Salinas receives on average of $18 of every $100 in property taxes paid.

City of Salinas has a Structural Deficit

No more City Reserves available.

The City used all available reserves to maintain services in past three years.

This year City has reduced services to meet lower revenues.

Since 1992, the State has ‘taken’ local government property tax revenue and reallocated it to schools to cover State shortfall. This year’s ‘take’ equates to $4 million in property taxes from City of Salinas.

The City needs to focus on increasing businesses and jobs for long term fiscal stability.

Declining City Revenues

Measure V sales tax provides 11% of City’s annual revenues. It will expire March 31, 2016.

Sales tax revenue will increase with new businesses and jobs.

Sales & Measure V Tax

The sales tax rate in the City of Salinas is 8.75% or $8.75 for every $100 purchase.

Of that, the City of Salinas gets $1.00 for regular City sales tax and $0.50 for Measure V sales tax.

Property Tax

The City of Salinas receives on average of $18 of every $100 in property taxes paid.

Declining City Revenues

Between 2006-2009 assessed home values decreased by over 68% in Salinas according to information from the Monterey County Tax-Treasurer’s office.

Property tax revenues for next few years projected to be at lower levels due to the decline in home values.
City of Salinas

City Hall
200 Lincoln Avenue
Salinas, CA 93901

Planning
65 West Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901

Monday-Thursday
8:00am-5:30pm
Closed Fridays

(831) 758-7201 phone
(831) 758-7368 fax

We’re on the web!
www.ci.salinas.ca.us

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work or visit.

City of Salinas Government

Dennis Donahue
Mayor
salinasmayor@ci.salinas.ca.us

Sergio Sanchez
Councilmember, District 1
district1@ci.salinas.ca.us

Gloria De La Rosa
Councilmember, District 4
district4@ci.salinas.ca.us

Tony Barrera
Councilmember, District 2
district2@ci.salinas.ca.us

Steve Villegas
Councilmember, District 5
district5@ci.salinas.ca.us

Janet Barnes
Councilmember, District 3
district3@ci.salinas.ca.us

Jyl Lutes
Councilmember, District 6
district6@ci.salinas.ca.us

The Salinas City Council meets most Tuesdays at 4:00pm at the Rotunda Building at 200 Lincoln Avenue in Salinas.

To reach Mayor & City Council:
By phone: (831) 758-7381
By fax: (831) 758-7368