



BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen – Chairperson
Councilor Toyia Tucker – Vice Chairperson

Councilors: John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle,
Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey and Bruce Huff

Council Chambers
C. E. “Red” McDaniel City Services Center- Second Floor
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

May 12, 2026
12:00 PM

A G E N D A

CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson R. Gary Allen, Presiding

PRESENTATIONS

1. Superior Court - Danielle Forte', Superior Court Clerk
- [2.](#) Parks & Recreation - Holli Browder, Parks & Recreation Director
- [3.](#) Public Works - Drale Short, Public Works Director
- [4.](#) Comprehensive Camera Update - Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager
5. Probate Court – Marc D’Antonio, Chief Judge
6. District Attorney's Office - Don Kelly, District Attorney
- [7.](#) Golf Authority - Jim Ardent, Golf Director
8. Civic Center / Sports Authority – Kanise Wiggins, Interim Director

The City of Columbus strives to provide accessibility to individuals with disabilities and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting. If assistance is needed regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, individuals may contact the Mayor’s Commission for Persons with Disabilities at 706-653-4492 promptly to allow the City Government to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

File Attachments for Item:

2. Parks & Recreation - Holli Browder, Parks & Recreation Director

Columbus Parks and Recreation FY27 Budget Requests

May 12, 2026

Holli Browder, Director



Facts about Columbus Parks and Recreation Dept.

- **Over 2000 Acres of Park Space**
- **52 Parks**
- **Over 50 linear miles of trail space**
- **44 public playground systems**
- **80 athletic fields**
 - **14 Adult Softball Fields**
 - **7 Football Fields**
 - **3 Sports Stadiums**
 - **11 Soccer Fields**
 - **45 Youth Baseball/Softball Fields**
- **81 Tennis courts**
- **19 Outdoor Basketball Courts**
- **82 Restrooms**
- **750 Litter Containers**
- **1 Marina**
- **1 Dog Park**
- **1 Museum**
- **14 After School**
- **2 Splash Pools**
- **10 Recreation Centers**
- **3 Senior Centers**
- **1 Cultural Arts Facility**
- **1 Boxing Facility**
- **1 Therapeutic Recreation Facility**
- **1 Natatorium**
- **4 Outdoor Pools**
- **Roughly 238 employees Year-round (129 FT, 109 PT, 100 Seasonal)**

Operational Increases

Item #2.

20 Percent Increase by Area				
Park Services Additional Operating				\$102,501.00
Aquatics Columbus Aquatic Center				\$61,796.00
Memorial Stadium				\$13,506.00
Lake Oliver Marina				\$16,620.00
Cooper Creek Tennis Center				\$15,635.00
Therapeutic Recreation				\$7,601.00
Senior Recreation				\$24,966.00
Recreation Services (Youth)				\$34,207.00
Aquatics Outdoor				\$160,365.00
Community Schools (After School and Camps)				\$62,747.00
Britt David Culural Arts				\$29,229.00
Administrative Division				\$19,362.00
Athletics				\$57,709.00

Positions to Reclass

Reclass Positions	Variance
Pottery Specialist to Recreation Program Specialist III	\$39,501.00
Tennis Specialist I G112 to G116	Budget Neutral
Tennis Specialist II G113 to G116	Budget Neutral
Recreation Specialist III Seniors to Recreation Specialist III	Budget Neutral

New Positions Needed

Additional Positions Needed			
Correctional Officer	1	\$42,925.00	\$42,925.00
Parks Crew Supervisor	4	\$49,691.50	\$198,766
Parks Maintenance Worker I	24	\$34,424.00	\$826,176.00
Pottery Specialists Part time	3	\$26,390.00	\$79,170.00
Recreation Center Leader Seniors Part time	2	\$28,417.00	\$56,833.50
Recreation Specialist II Seniors Full time	2	\$40,898.00	\$81,796.59
Recreation Specialist II Youth Full time	8	\$40,898.00	\$327,187.00
			\$1,612,854.09

Wage Increase

		Rate Now	Rate Requested	
Athletic Chief Part-time		\$13.50	\$18.50	
Athletic Officials Part-time		\$12.50	\$17.50	
Additional amount needed in Wages				\$115,000

Capital Requests

Item #2.

Rank	Item Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
1	Flat Bed Dump Body	6	\$118,800.00	\$712,800.00
2	Full Size F-250 4WD	6	\$59,400.00	\$356,400.00
3	Correctional Officer Detail Vans	2	\$120,000.00	\$240,000.00
4	Electronic Timing System for NATA	1	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
5	Ford 150 Crew Cab	3	\$55,000.00	\$165,000.00
6	Dive Blocks NATA	22	\$3,250.00	\$71,500.00
7	BAF Air Circulation	4	\$30,000.00	\$120,000.00
8	Diving Boards	3	\$25,000.00	\$75,000.00
9	Backstroke Flags and Poles	1	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
10	Replace all Carpet in Super Centers	4	\$90,000.00	\$360,000.00
11	Replace Bleachers at Shirley Winston Rec	1	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00
12	Replace Gym Floor Covering 27oz	36	\$3,000.00	\$108,000.00
13	Electric Power Winder	6	\$2,500.00	\$15,000.00
14	Gym Floor Mobile Storage	6	\$6,000.00	\$36,000.00
15	Illuminated Standing Score Tables	4	\$9,600.00	\$38,400.00
16	Retardant Wall Pads 2'x6'	110	\$600.00	\$66,000.00
17	Gym Floor Rubber Runners	14	\$600.00	\$8,400.00

Capital Requests continued

Item #2.

18	Two Tier Folding Chair Dolly	9	\$600.00	\$5,400.00
19	6 passenger Golf Cart gas	1	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
20	Elliptical Machine	3	\$3,500.00	\$10,500.00
21	Dumbbells and Storage Racks	3	\$2,500.00	\$7,500.00
22	Exercise Balls and Rack	3	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00
23	Steps, Benches, Risers and Rack	3	\$4,000.00	\$12,000.00
24	Two-Tier Folding Chair Dolly	3	\$600.00	\$1,800.00
25	John Deere Zero Turn Mowers	9	\$13,200.00	\$118,800.00
26	Smithco Ballfield Groomer	2	\$26,997.00	\$53,994.00
27	ABI Force w/lazer system	1	\$52,349.00	\$52,349.00
28	Bush Hog w/stump jumper	3	\$3,494.00	\$10,482.00
29	John Deere Zero Turn Mowers w/bagger	8	\$35,096.00	\$280,768.00
30	Toro Boom Sprayer	1	\$27,418.00	\$27,418.00
31	Graco Line Lazer	2	\$7,468.00	\$14,936.00
32	Toro Sidewinder Reel Mower	2	\$59,871.00	\$119,742.00
33	Track Loader Compact JD325G with angle	1	\$146,428.00	\$146,428.00
34	Ventrac tractor w/attachments	1	\$99,000.00	\$99,000.00
35	Buffalo Blower	1	\$12,733.00	\$12,733.00

Capital Requests continued

Item #2.

36	Forklift	1	\$66,227.00	\$66,227.00
37	4x4 Service truck with tool body	1	\$71,500.00	\$71,500.00
38	Altoz TRX Track Mower	4	\$25,058.00	\$100,232.00
39	John Deere Gator TX 4x2	3	\$11,386.00	\$34,158.00
40	Lincoln Electric Welder	1	\$17,032.00	\$17,032.00
41	Shirley Winston Infield Renovations	1	\$49,423.00	\$49,423.00
42	Edgewood Infield Renovations	1	\$54,940.00	\$54,940.00
43	Rigdon Park Infield Renovations	1	\$47,553.00	\$47,553.00
44	Replace 4 playgrounds	4	\$200,000.00	\$800,000.00
45	John Deere Gator TX 4x2	1	\$11,386.00	\$11,386.00
46	Refuse Truck 16' Rear Loader	1	\$380,600.00	\$380,600.00
47	John Deere Gator TX 4x2	1	\$11,386.00	\$11,386.00
48	Vaptr Roller	4	\$3,100.00	\$12,400.00
49	15 passenger Wheelchair Assessible Bus	1	\$168,000.00	\$168,000.00
50	12 x 12 Outdoor Storage Shed with Floor	1	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
51	Two-Tier Folding Chair Dolly	1	\$600.00	\$600.00
52	15 Passenger Van	1	\$58,000.00	\$58,000.00

Capital Requests continued

Item #2.

53	Replace tile floor in Britt David	1	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00
54	Digital Pottery Kilns	3	\$7,000.00	\$21,000.00
55	Ceramic Clay	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
56	Ceramic Glazes	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
57	Laptops, Monitors and Docking Station	3	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00
58	Printers and Supplies	3	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
59	Full-Size F150 Crew Cab 2 WD	1	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00
60	Replacement 15 passenger vans	2	\$58,000.00	\$116,000.00
61	Replacement vehicle Exepdition	1	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
62	Hood Installation Comer Gym	1	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
63	Pool Tables Senior and Recreation Centers	8	\$5,000.00	\$40,000.00
64	Furniture Senior Centers and Recreation Centers		\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
65	Food Warmer 3 Senior Centers	3	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00
	Total Capital			\$6,031,787.00

File Attachments for Item:

3. Public Works - Drale Short, Public Works Director

Department of Public Works

FY'27 BUDGET PRESENTATION

DRALE SHORT, DIRECTOR

05/12/2026



Integrated Waste Enterprise Fund

- **Recommendations to build revenue:**
- **UPTOWN COLS – Honor Decal System**
 - 47 Blocks 8th to 14th St/Bay to Veterans Pkwy
 - 31 Commercial Dumpsters – Private Collection
 - 2 Compactors – Private Collection
 - 23 Carts – City Collection
 - 80 Businesses on Broadway out of 104 are currently receiving services, but not paying.
- Add a garbage fee on all the water accounts of businesses in Uptown that can not provide us with a Waste Management Plan.



GEORGIA BENCHMARK WASTE SYSTEM MODELS

Implement
4-5%
Franchise Fee
Low: \$360K
High: \$450K
Annual

Athens (Hybrid Model)

- Franchise system + city service
- Partial mandate (downtown)

Macon (Outsourced Model)

- No franchise fee
- City pays private hauler
- Limited revenue capture

Augusta (Municipal Model)

- Fully city-run system
- Direct billing & control

Columbus Opportunity

- Hybrid approach (like Athens)
- revenue locally
- Path toward full system control

Integrated Waste Enterprise Fund

- **Invest in Front Loader Commercial Collection Program**
 - (2) Trucks: \$760,000 or \$380,000 each
 - (18) Front Load Containers: 8 yd containers @ \$8,000. each/\$144,000.
- **Invest in Roll Off Containers & Trucks**
 - Service Evictions - YTD Eviction 2,593 @ \$300 is \$777,900
 - New Construction Request
 - (3) Trucks: \$200,000 ea/\$600,000.
 - (10) Roll Off Containers 10 yd - \$100,000.

Front Loader



Roll Off

FY'27 Budget Critical Position Discrepancies

- MCP was approved to provide its new Correctional Officers a \$5,000 sign on bonus. \$1,250 will be paid to these new officers every 6 months for 24 months, for a total of \$5,000. each. Public Works Detail Correctional Officers were not assessed this same benefit. CO I & CO II (Supervisors)
- Public Works Correctional Officers
 - Officers (CO1) – 23 / 14 Vacant
 - Supervisors (CO2) – 2 / 0 Vacant

FY'27 Budget Critical Position Cont.

- Fleet Maintenance Tech II
 - **Public Works (G118)** @ \$39,895.59
 - **Metra (G121)** @ \$45,308.62
- Fleet Maintenance Tech III
 - **Public Works (G121)** @ \$45,308.62
 - **Metra (G122)** @ \$47,574.75
- Public Works Fleet Maintenance Technicians
 - Fleet Maintenance Technician I (G116) – 5
 - Fleet Maintenance Technician II (G118) – 16
 - Fleet Maintenance Technician III (G121) – 5
 - Sr. Fleet Maintenance Technician (G123) – 2
- Vacancy – 1 in each Tech I and Tech II position

Critical Position Needs

- **Administration**
 - New Position – Asst. Safety Coordinator (G119) @ \$41,491.41
 - Approved by Evergreen as Asst. Safety Coordinator (G122) @ \$47,574.05
 - New Position – HR Technician II (G119) @ \$41,491.41
 - Approved by Evergreen as an Employment Coordinator (G118) @ \$39,895.59
- **Integrated Waste 0207-260-3510 – BUDGET NEUTRAL**
- Reclassified – Animal Control Officer (G116) @ \$36,885.71 to a Container Maintenance Coordinator (G116) @ \$36,885.71

Public Works Critical Capital Needs

- **General Fund**
 - Fleet Maintenance – Slip Resistant Flooring - \$140K
- **Paving Fund**
 - Paving & Repairs (0203-260-3110)
 - 2 Inmate Vans –GDOC Required - \$210K (Replacement)
 - 4 Crew Cab 4x4 Flatbed Truck w/10' Body (Replacement)

Integrated Waste Revenue Building Plan

- Upcoming Presentation to Council
 - Uptown Columbus – Waste Collection Fee
 - Request investing in a Commercial Program
 - Reiterate the importance of a Franchise Fee
 - Request investing in a Roll Off Program



File Attachments for Item:

4. Comprehensive Camera Update - Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager



ILLEGAL DUMPING CAMERAS

**BUDGET PRESENTATION
MAY 12, 2026**



ILLEGAL DUMPING CAMERA PROGRAM

The Illegal Dumping Camera Program is managed by our **Community Service Section** under **Public Works**.

Community Services Probationers are used to clean these areas as well as policing the city, removing litter.

Currently, we have 19 illegal dumping sites on our list.

A site is identified based on the number of complaints received at a given location.

Currently, we have 96 locations on schedule for litter maintenance and add to this weekly.

Camera placement is based on factors such as site visibility, dumping activity, traffic speed and volume, and southern sun exposure.

ILLEGAL DUMPING CAMERA ISSUES

Because the cameras rely solely on **solar power**, they require an average of **60% daylight sun exposure** to operate 24/7. Extended periods of **cloudy or rainy weather** can disrupt continuous site monitoring.

The most common reasons a citation is not issued for illegal dumping at camera sites include:

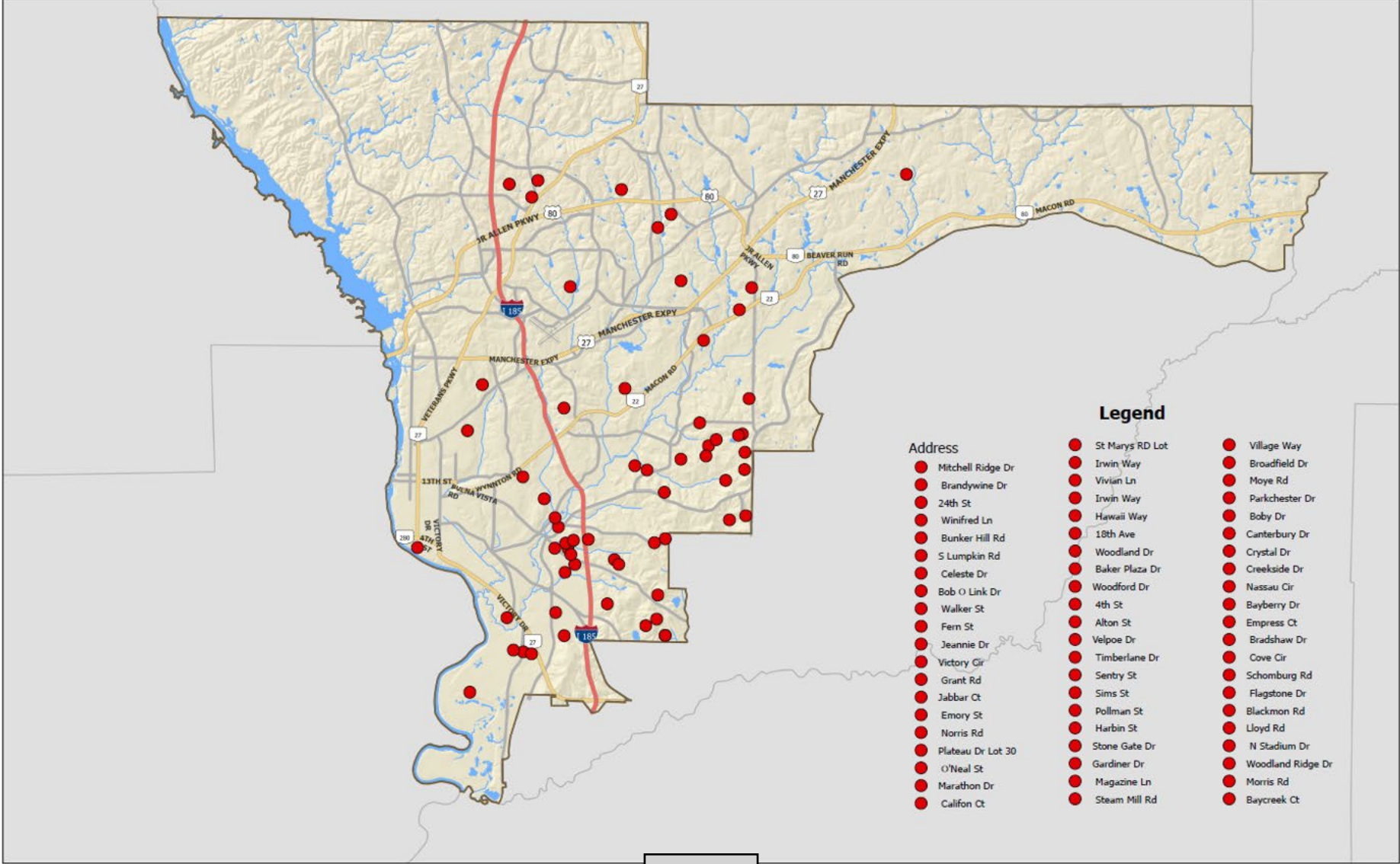
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| The vehicle tag is not visible. | The vehicle tag address is incorrect or invalid. | The vehicle tag is not registered in Muscogee County. |
|---------------------------------|--|---|

Only **50% of illegal dumping cases** result in a citation due to these limitations.

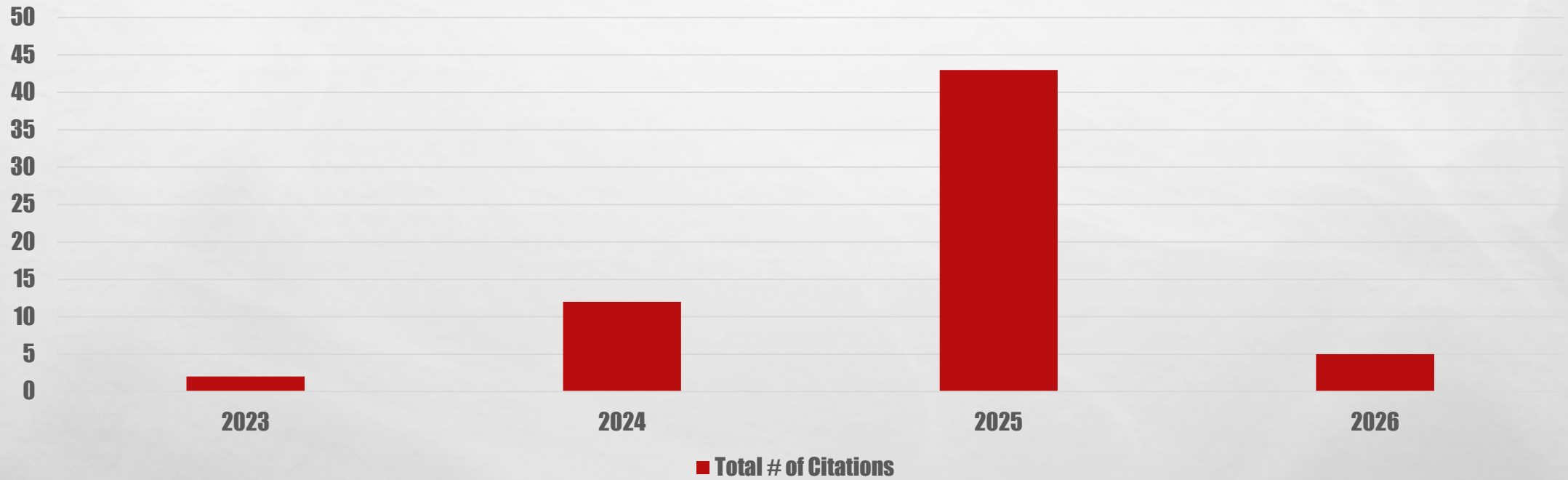
ILLEGAL DUMPING CASES

- Most common illegal dumping citation is for tires.
- A total of 62 citations have been issued since illegal dumping cameras were installed in July 2023.
- \$1,000 fine for illegal dumping.
- If cited and the citizen does not show up to environmental court, a “bench warrant” is issued. if the case returns to court, an additional \$100 fine will be imposed for contempt of court.

Citation Locations



TOTAL NUMBER OF CITATIONS



FY'27 ILLEGAL DUMPING CAMERA PROGRAM

**10 Cameras have
been
recommended in
the FY'27 Budget**

**Would like to start
the process of
phasing in cameras
throughout our
parks.**

ILLEGAL DUMPING CAMERA COST

The cost to install one illegal dumping camera:

- solar panel:
- visual camera:
- tag reader:
- utility pole:
- labor cost:
- Stationary camera initial cost: \$14k each location



CITIZEN INPUT IS KEY

Item #4.



- **THE BEST WAY TO CURTAIL ILLEGAL DUMPING AND LITTER IS TO GET OUR COMMUNITY TO ASSIST. OUR EMPLOYEES **CANNOT** DO IT ALONE. WE NEED **'ALL HANDS ON DECK'** IF WE WANT CLEANER COMMUNITY.**

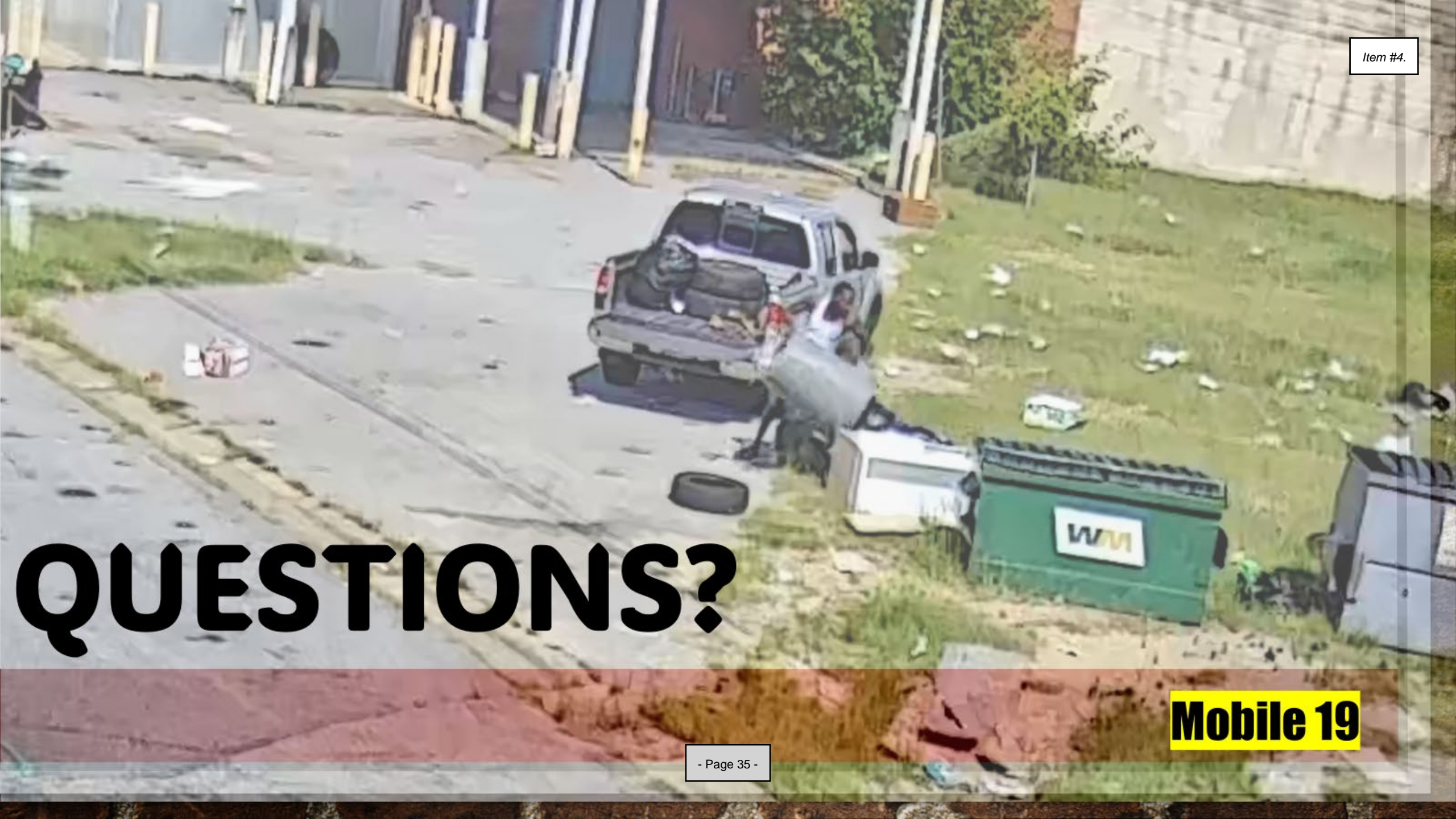
ILLEGAL DUMPING HOTLINE

Item #4.

- **706-225-3001**

QUESTIONS?

Mobile 19



File Attachments for Item:

7. Golf Authority - Jim Ardent, Golf Director



-community golf course with over \$7.2 million dollars raised for local charities!



0755- Bull Creek Golf Course-Bull Creek Fund

Mayor's Proposed Budget- Bull Creek ---- \$2,530,041

Change Request -----+ \$158,000

Requested Bull Creek GC Budget-----\$2,688,041

FY26 Revenue-Bull Creek GC

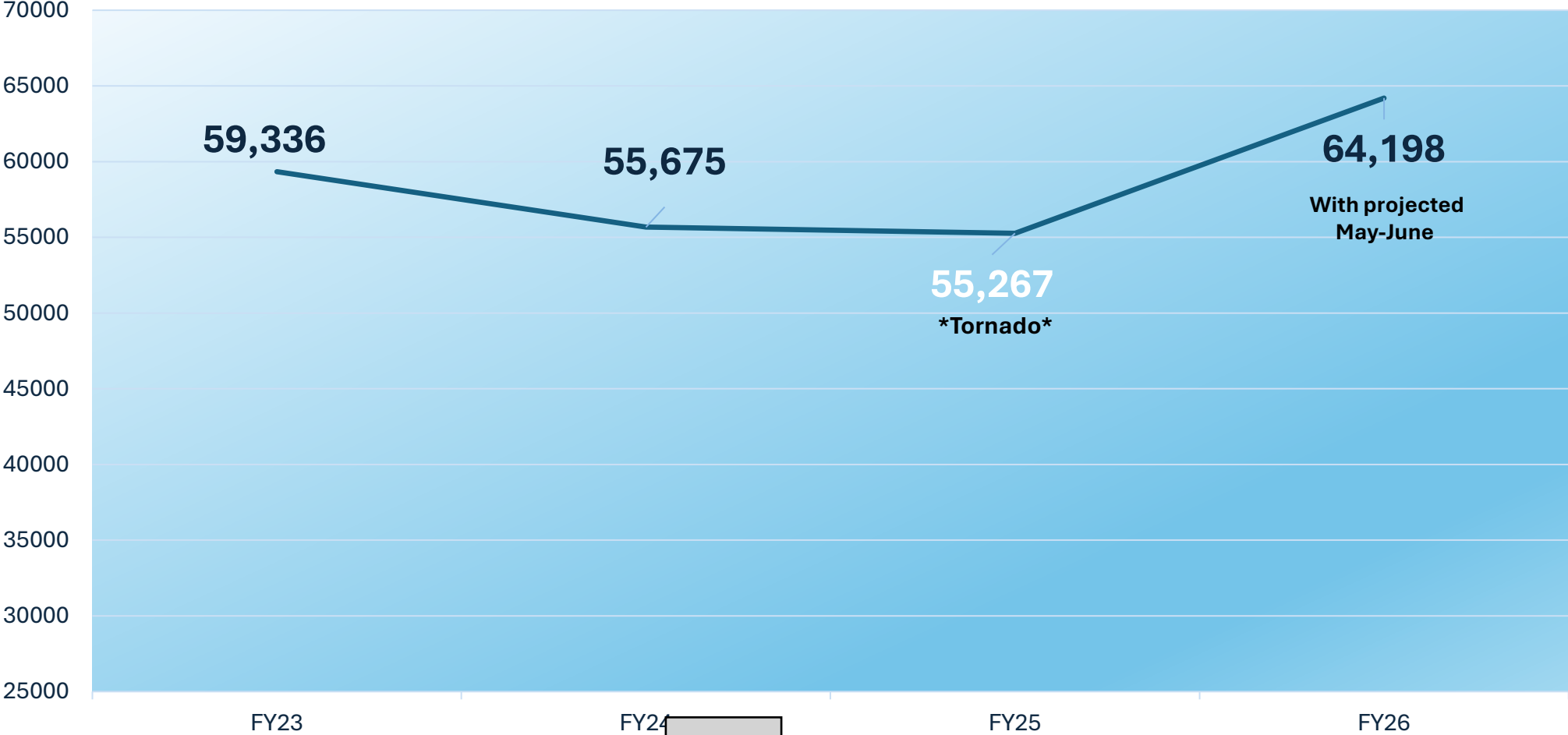
Actual July 2025-April 2026-----\$2,206,827

+ May/June FY25-----\$631,947

Total FY26 Revenue (w/projected May/June) --\$2,838,774

***Note \$2 rate increase to in - Page 39 - FY27 (estimated)-\$100,000**

Bull Creek Golf Course Rounds FY23-FY26



WHY \$158,000?

44-year Golf Course Superintendent Steve Brown is set to retire August 31, 2026. *Note, his Assistant, Charles Lewis is in his 42nd year!

- **At my request, Columbus Golf Authority has approved a Director of Agronomy position (beginning January 2027).**
 - **Managing multiple facilities**
 - **Not equipment operator**
 - **We are growing, not staying the same!**

- **Equipment Rental/ Lease**
 - **Replace golf cart fleet (primary)**
- **Horticulture/Landscape Supplies**
- **Auto Parts and Supplies**

Total Bull Creek Change Request-----\$158,000

- **As of May 1, 2026, Bull Creek has \$540,813 in cash reserves.**
- **Bull Creek, Oxbow Creek and Godwin Creek Golf Courses are facing some costly updates.**

Oxbow Creek Golf Course

Item #7.

- **Transfer in reduced by \$50,000?**
- **Recent “good” operating years**
- **Increased risk due to aging conditions**