Hotel/Motel Tax Fund

The Hotel/Motel Tax Fund accounts for lodging tax revenue and related expenditures. In May 2023, City Council adopted a new Hotel/Motel tax rate from six percent to eight percent and established an effective collection date of September 1, 2023. With the new Hotel/Motel resolution in place the General Fund will no longer receive one-half of the revenues collected, but instead the General Fund will receive 37.5 percent of the revenue. The remaining revenue is distributed between Visit Savannah to promote tourism, the Savannah International Trade & Convention Center, and Tourism Product Development Projects. With the adoption of the new Hotel/Motel tax rate, revenues will no longer be distributed to the Savannah Civic Center.

In 2024, \$44,511 is budgeted as additional revenue for the General Fund to offset the administrative cost associated with the Senior Capital Project Manager who will be primarily responsible for the management of the Tourism Project Development Projects, this is 50 percent of the budgeted salary.

Revenues							
Revenue Source		2022 Actual	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed	% Change 2023-2024		
Hotel/Motel Tax		34,754,974	36,000,000	45,000,000	25.0		
	Total	\$34,754,974	\$36,000,000	\$45,000,000	25.0		

Expenditures								
Expenditure Area	2022 Actual	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed	% Change 2023-2024				
Contribution to Visit Savannah Contribution to Trade	11,583,833	12,043,175	15,210,000	26.3				
Center	4,549,775	4,842,288	6,300,000	30.1				
Transfer to General Fund	17,377,487	16,819,795	16,919,551	0.6				
Transfer to Civic Center Fund	1,243,879	906,820	-	(100.0)				
Transfer to Tourism Product Development Fund	-	1,387,922	6,570,449	373.4				
Total	\$34,754,974	\$36,000,000	\$45,000,000	25.0				