

# Agenda



CITY OF BEND

## Transportation Fee Listening Session #2

Thursday, February 29, 2024, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

City Council Chambers, Bend City Hall  
710 NW Wall, Bend, Oregon

**HYBRID MEETING NOTICE** The City of Bend Council will conduct this meeting virtually through Zoom and in person at the Bend City Hall, Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon. To observe this meeting, livestreaming will be available via **YouTube**.

**TO ATTEND BY COMPUTER: Pre-register to attend Zoom meeting**

Join by phone, toll-charges may apply: 1-888-788-0099 or 1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID: 879 3291 9917

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A Transportation Fee is a recurring fee collected from people and businesses in Bend through their regular utility bill. The bill is a charge, like a monthly sewer charge, to ensure that users share the costs of operating and maintaining the City's transportation system. The fee is proposed to be phased-in over three years, with Phase 1 expected to begin appearing on bills for July 2024. The community is invited to review and provide comment on the **draft code** and associated Phase 1 **fee schedule** (fiscal year 2024-2025) in-person or online during two public listening sessions. Written comment to Council can also be submitted to **[transportationfeemails@bendoregon.gov](mailto:transportationfeemails@bendoregon.gov)**.

To learn more, visit **[www.bendoregon.gov/transportation-fee](http://www.bendoregon.gov/transportation-fee)**.

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### 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Bend City Council Listening Session

- 1. Call to Order:** Mayor Melanie Kebler, Mayor Pro Tem Megan Perkins, Councilor Anthony Broadman, Councilor Barb Campbell, Councilor Mike Riley, Councilor Ariel Méndez and Councilor Megan Norris
  - 2. Short staff presentation responding to most commonly asked questions**
  - 3. Public Comment (in person and virtually via Zoom)**
  - 4. Adjourn**
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**Note: Spanish language interpreter service will be available during the Listening Session**



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### **Accessible Meeting/Alternate Format Notification**

This meeting/event location is accessible. Sign and other language interpreter service, assistive listening devices, materials in alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, language translations or any other accommodations are available upon advance request at no cost. Please contact the Deputy City Recorder no later than 24 hours in advance of the meeting at [mfry@bendoregon.gov](mailto:mfry@bendoregon.gov), 541-617-4529, fax 541-385-6676, or TTY 541-312-8478. Providing at least 2 days notice prior to the event will help ensure availability.

For Questions or Comments on the agenda, contact: Sarah Hutson [shutson@bendoregon.gov](mailto:shutson@bendoregon.gov)



CITY OF BEND

# Transportation Fee Listening Session

*Short staff presentation to address commonly asked questions*

February 26, 2024 &  
February 29, 2024

# Paving the Way to Bend's Transportation Future



CITY OF BEND

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyqQYSME3pw>

# Bend's Transportation Funding Story

**2008**

- Recession
- Street budget cut

**2009**

- Street Maintenance Funding Focus Group recommended Transportation Fee
- Council rejects recommendation

**2011**

- Public Safety Funding Committee recommends Transportation Fee
- Council rejects recommendation
- GO Bond passes
- State increase in gas tax

**2015**

- Council Transportation Goal: explore revenue options to improve roads
- Committee formed
- Recommended a local gas tax

**2016**

- Voters reject local gas tax
- Council directs one-time funds to help improve roads
- Commits to find longer term solutions

**2018-2020**

- Transportation System Plan update
- Workgroup recommends Transportation Fee as part of funding plan

**2020**

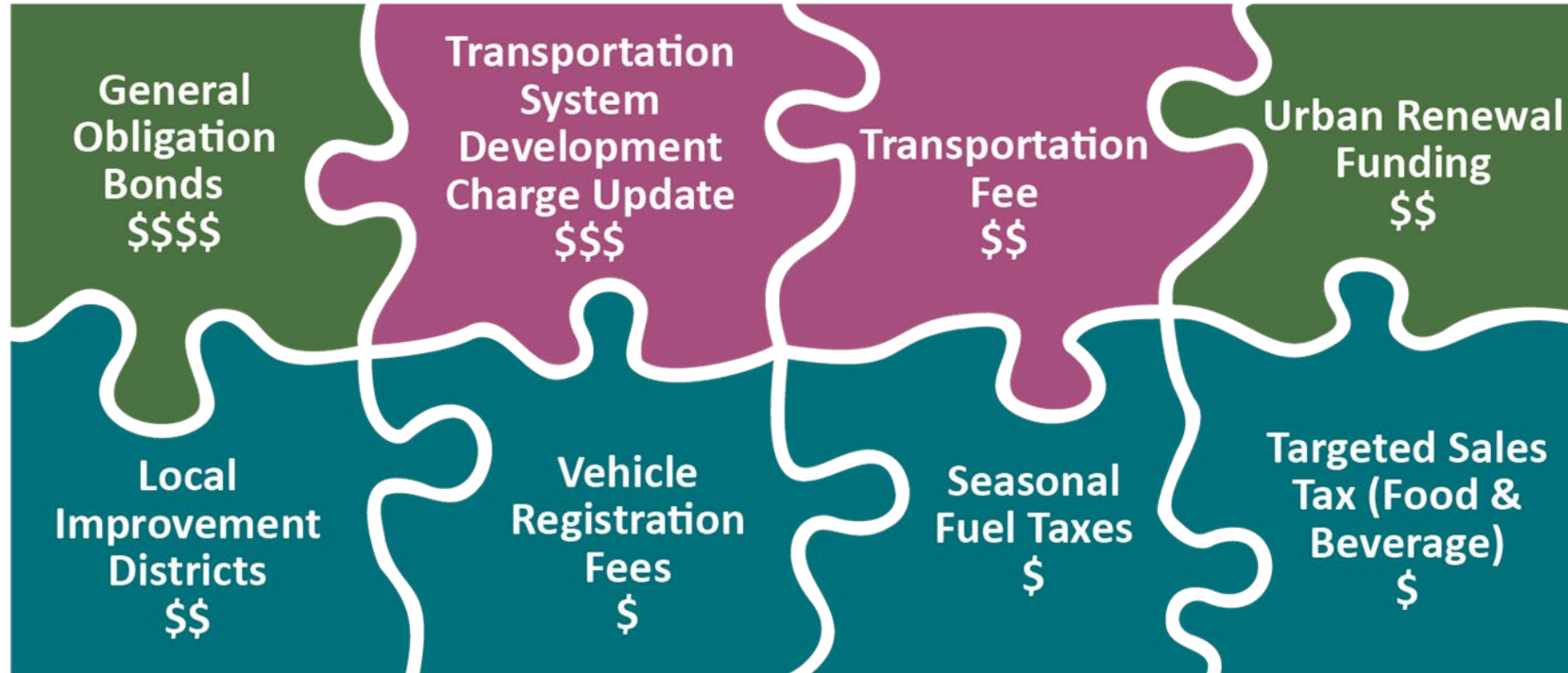
- Voters approve \$190M GO Bond
- Council Goal: commit to developing a funding plan

**2023**

- Council Goal: implement Transportation Fee
- Create a community engagement plan



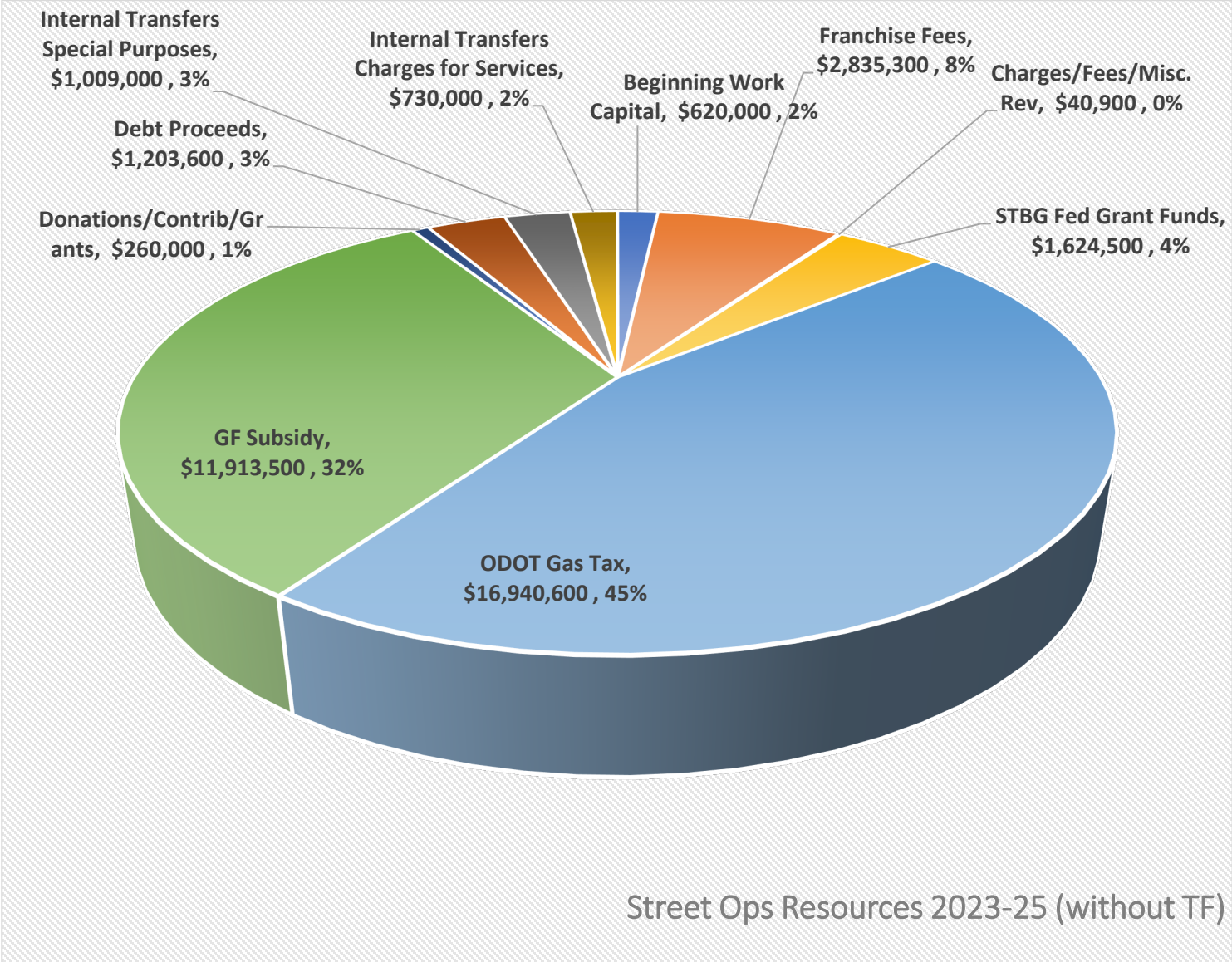
# Preferred Transportation Funding Strategies



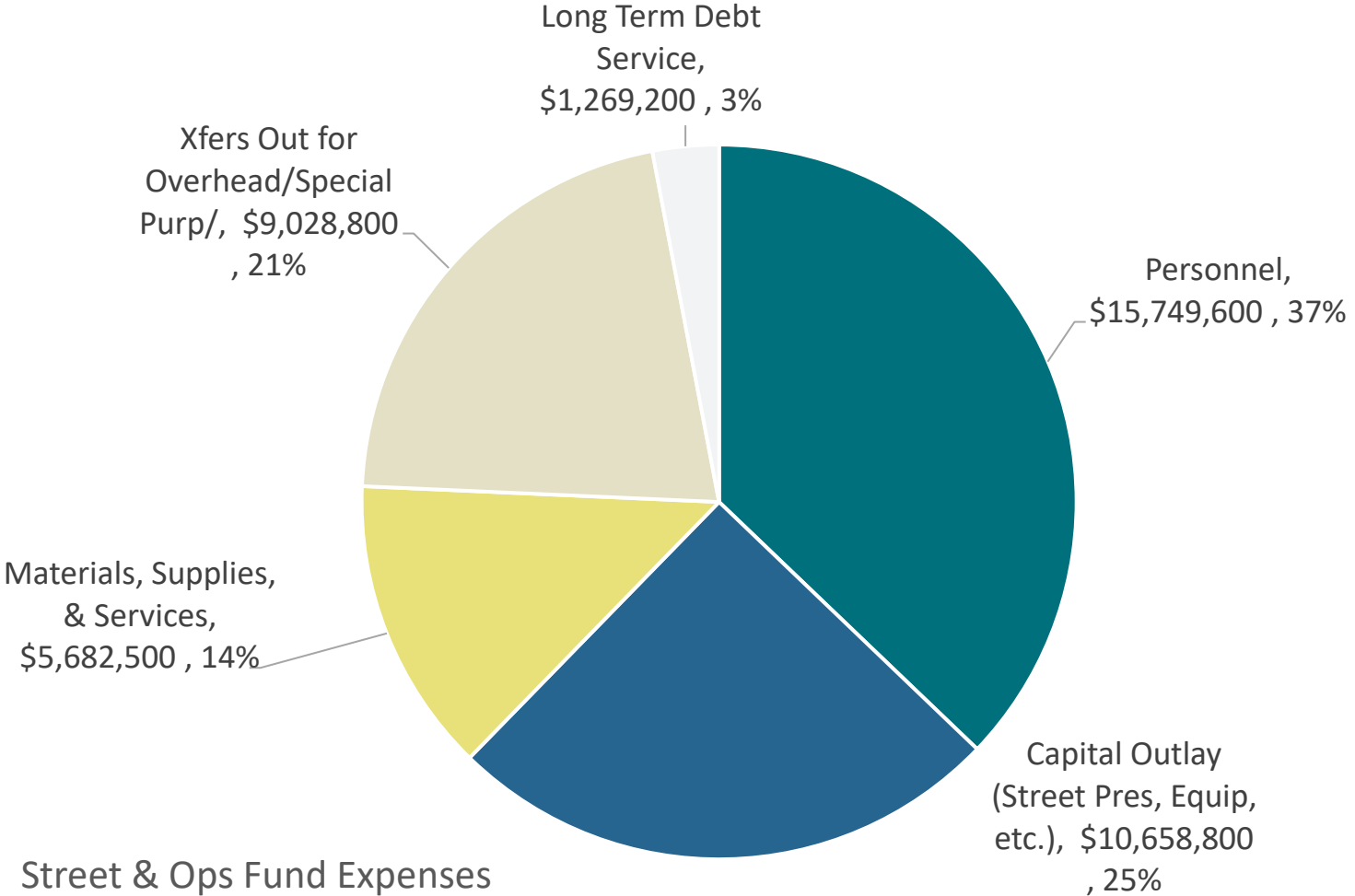
# Why does the Streets & Operations Fund need the Transportation Fee to maintain current services?

## Unstable Revenue Streams:

- ODOT Gas Tax
- Subsidized by General Fund
- Grants/Debt Proceeds



# Why are expenses outpacing resources and growth?



- Cost of supplies, contracts with vendors for services, etc.
- Expanding the transportation system results in additional costs related to maintenance and supplies
- Contractual agreements and cost of benefits



# Why can't the General Fund continue to subsidize the Street & Operations Fund as it has in the past?

2023-25 Biennium General Fund has the following operating shortfall and is using one-time resources such as *beginning working capital* and *reserves* to close this gap for the current biennium:

Operating Revenues: \$142,965,700

Operating Expenses: \$160,563,400

*Operating Shortfall:* \$ 17,597,700



# Why can't the General Fund continue to subsidize the Street & Operations Fund as it has in the past?

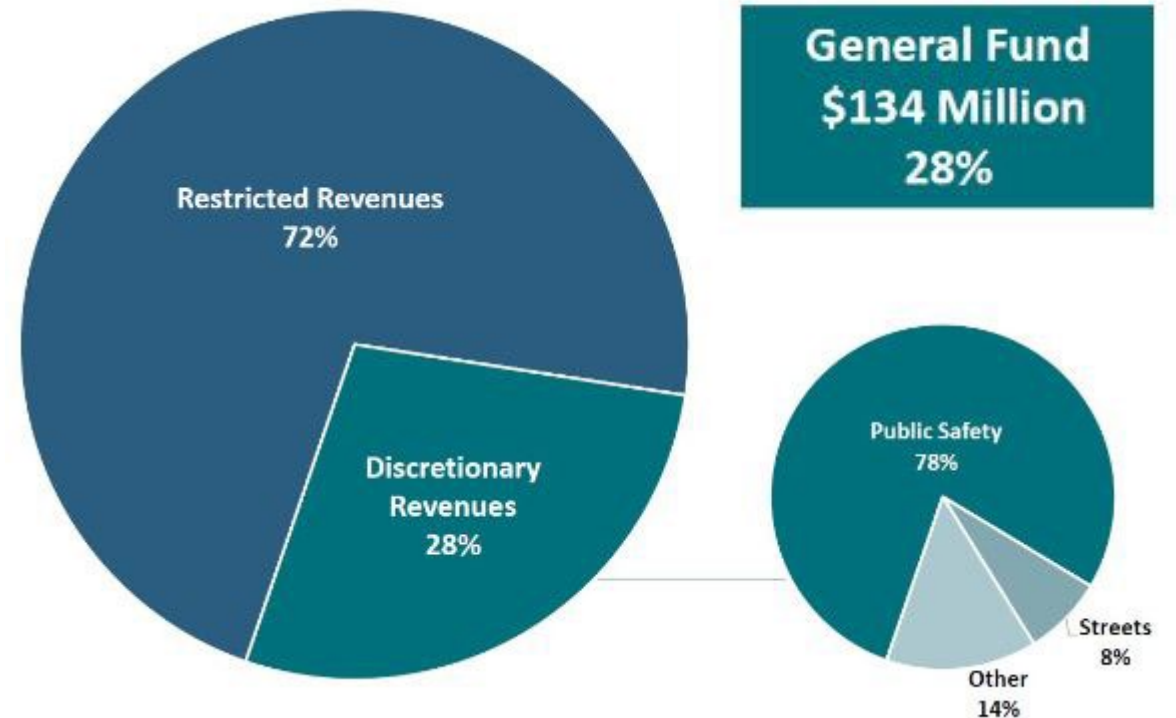
**Property Taxes:** Measures 5 & 50 and permanent tax rate of \$2.8035

**State Shared Revenues:** allocated by State based on population, consumer-driven

**Franchise Fees:** limited by agreements and ORS\*

**Room Tax:** Per ORS\*, majority of any increase to be used for tourism promotion

**Court Fines:** Maximums established by ORS\*



# Use of Funds

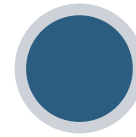
## Example Phase-In and Budget Priorities for Deploying Funds



**Phase 1**  
**\$5M (FY24/25)**



**Phase 2**  
**\$10M (FY25/26)**



**Phase 3**  
**\$15M (Beginning FY26)**

Maintaining core duties including Pavement Condition Index (no reduction in services)

Limited funding for  
accessibility construction and  
multi-modal equipment for  
protected facility maintenance  
Engineering, GIS, and admin  
FTE

Limited funding for  
pedestrian route infill and  
striping/street markings  
equipment  
Striping/street markings and  
planning FTE

Dedicated concrete sidewalk and  
multi-modal sweeping/plowing FTE  
Incremental funding for TSP programs  
(e.g., Transportation Safety Action  
Plan projects, bike program,  
pedestrian program, sidewalk repair  
cost share program)



# Next Steps

February 26 & 29

Listening Sessions: Feb. 26 4:30-6:30pm and Feb. 29 9:30-11:30am in Council Chambers

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March 6

Work session following Listening Sessions

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March 20

Public hearing: Adoption of Fee Resolution (July 1, 2024 effective date) and first reading of Ordinance

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April 3

Second reading of Ordinance

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July 1

Transportation Fee to begin appearing on utility bills in August (utilities billed in arrears) and Short-Term Rental licenses in July

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# More Information

Transportation Fee webpage: [www.bendoregon.gov/transportation-fee](http://www.bendoregon.gov/transportation-fee)

To provide written comment: [transportationfeemails@bendoregon.gov](mailto:transportationfeemails@bendoregon.gov)

# Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities



To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. please contact Sarah Hutson at [shutson@bendoregon.gov](mailto:shutson@bendoregon.gov) or 541-693-2132; Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.