

Become a Department Expert!

Budgeting Austin's Expenditures: Gaining Background Information

With your group, you will tackle the budget by splitting into the relevant City Budget sections that interest you the most. You have four options:

- Community Services includes...
 - Animal Services
 - Social Services Contracts
 - Health and Human Services
- Infrastructure and Mobility (with one Community Service)
 - Transportation Department
 - Public Works
 - Parks & Recreation (found under Community Services)
- Development (with one Community Service)
 - Planning and Zoning
 - Development Services
 - Neighborhood and Housing Development (found under Community Services)
- Public Safety
 - Municipal Courts
 - Fire
 - Emergency Management Services

You will become an expert and budget advisor for the group in the area that you select. It will be your duty to use the Proposed City of Austin Budget (the same document you used Day 1), the City of Austin Dashboard, the Budget Trade Offs Reference Guide, and the “Learn More” section of Budget Game to make informed and justified changes to the budget allocation for your assigned departments. You will fill in the necessary information for each department within your selected section on the “Budget Information” Graphic Organizer.

You will begin to share your findings with your group members and if you would add or subtract from the budget for each area by reviewing the anticipatory guide from the beginning of class. Next class, it will be your job to come to a consensus with your group about modifications for the overall budget that stay within the budget allocation for the City and best serve your local district, so make sure you give accurate and valuable insight!