

Town of Ballston 2024 Budget Estimates

A Fund, B Fund, Highway Fund

9/7/2023



Financial Operating Structure

Fund A

- Town-wide expenditures. Includes Tax Collector, Town Board, Town Clerk, Town Comptroller, Town Court, Town Historian, Elections Town Supervisor, Highway Supervisor and administrative personnel assigned to these departments, as well as Town-owned property and maintenance like Parks (excluding Jenkins) as well as Hillside Cemetery.

Fund B

- Town-outside of village expenditures. Includes Building Inspector, Planning, Zoning, and drainage functions, in addition to programs for youth and aging.

Highway

- Town-outside of village road repairs, snow removal, brush and weed maintenance, related machinery and equipment, personnel, and contractual expenditures.



Financial Operating Structure

Library *(more info on 9/12!)*

- The Town of Ballston Community Library maintains facilities, resources, and services to meet the ongoing needs of all persons for education, personal enrichment, and recreation.

Water Funds (3x) *(more info on 9/14!)*

- These funds support the acquisition and delivery of water to district customers, expansion and maintenance of the water infrastructure, training of personnel, and administration of the Town's Water Department. Types of costs include wages and benefits, equipment, contractual expenses, and costs related to State mandated reporting.

Jenkins Park *(more info on 9/14!)*

- Expenses related to the operations and maintenance of Jenkins Park.



Financial Operating Structure

Lighting Districts (3x) *(more info on 9/14!)*

- Street lighting expenses based on geographic location and curb-cuts. Expenses consist almost exclusively of utility costs; electricity and fees.

Public Safety Districts (6x) *(more info on 9/14!)*

- Fire protection and emergency medical services based on geographic location and 911 dispatch boundaries.

Sewer Districts (2x) *(more info on 9/14!)*

- Ballston Lake and Carpenter's Acres sewer districts based on service areas.



Overview – A, B, Highway

The 2024 budget will once again not impose a Town nor Highway tax to sustain operational costs. The Town has benefitted from new growth and its respective share of Saratoga County's rising sales tax revenue.

Thus far, 2023 sales tax revenue is exceeding expectations and the 2024 budget is based on conservative estimates for next year.

To maintain the highest level of service for constituents, we must adapt to new economic conditions and, therefore, budget accordingly.

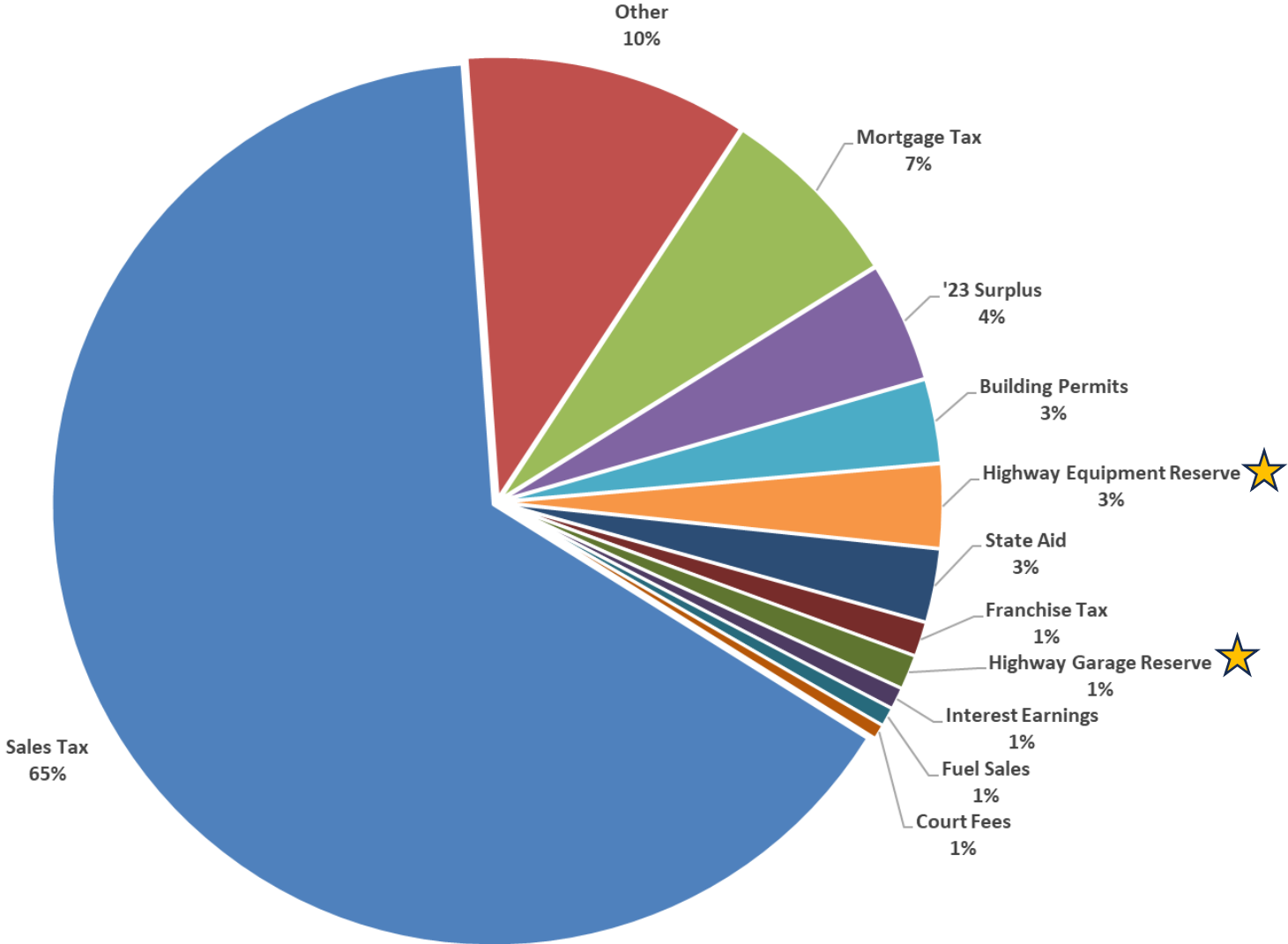


2024 Highlights – A, B, Highway

- Revenue is increasing due to new growth in taxable value and inflation driving consumer prices higher as these funds depend heavily on sales tax receipts distributed monthly from Saratoga County.
- Expenses have increased due to greater demand for services and historically high costs due to inflation in commodity and services prices. This trend is seen across all funds, but predominantly in Highway Fund.
- New economic conditions now require purchase agreements up to 36 months in advance of delivery for major equipment. Adequate budget authority must be available to encumber at the time of agreement. The result is higher than ever consumption of resources.
- 2024 budget estimates were designed to increase the level of service constituents can expect to receive, with once again, no real property tax requirements.

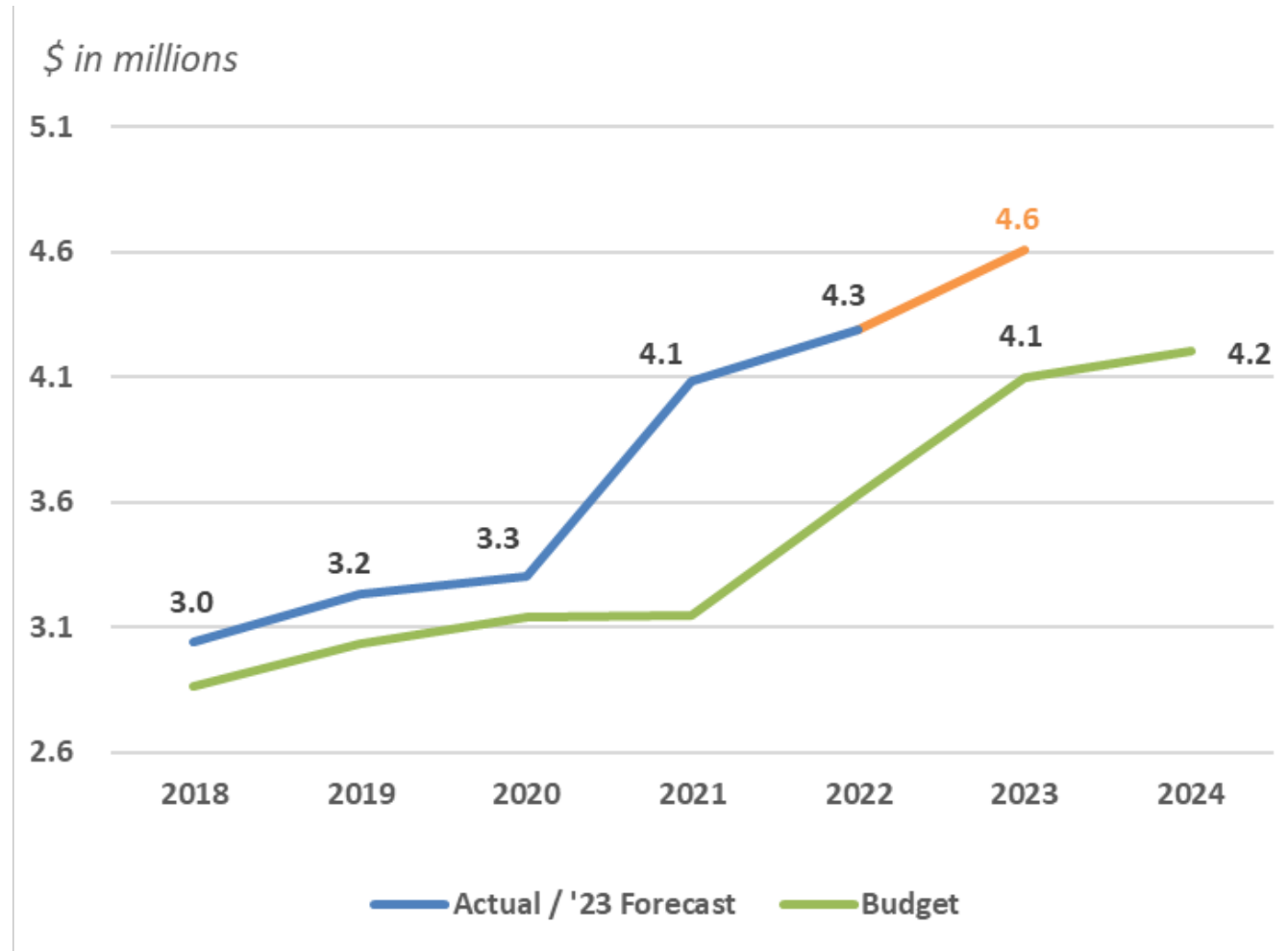


A, B, and Highway Revenue Types



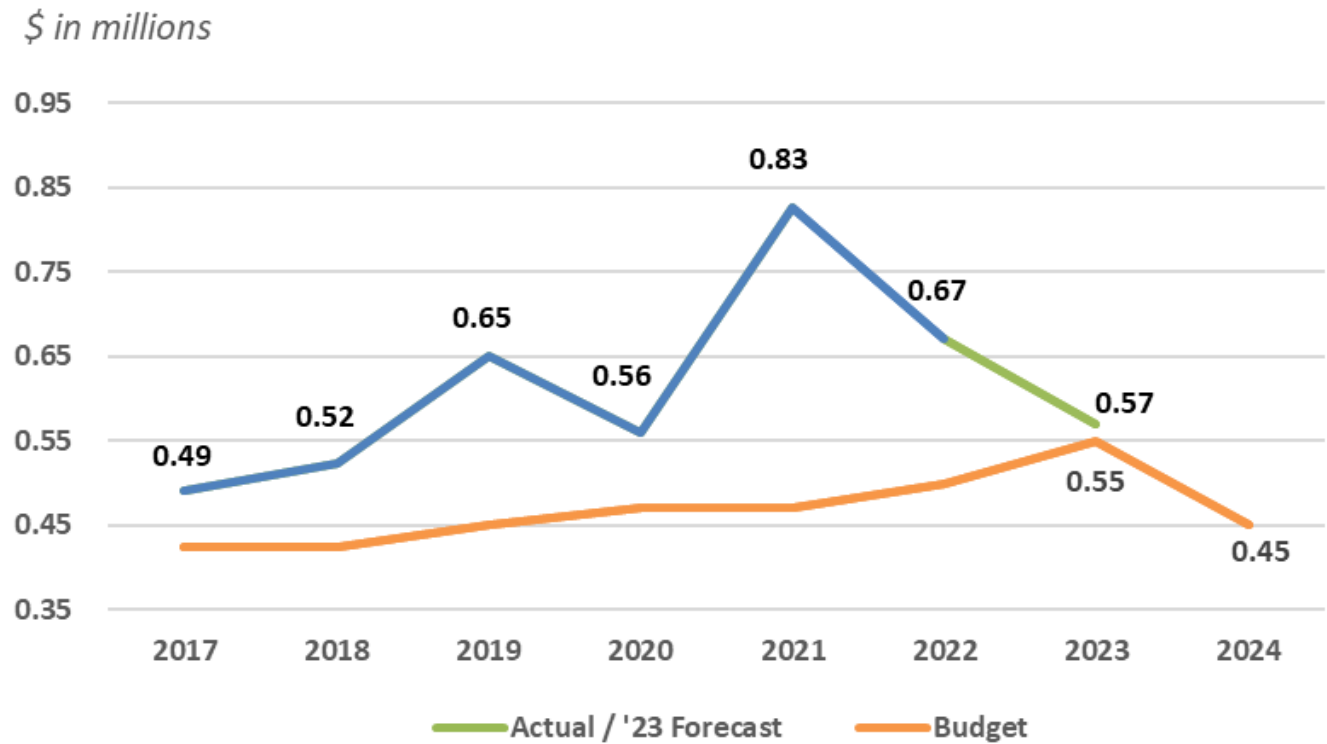
Sales Tax Revenue

- **Conservative** estimate for 2023: **\$4.2M**
- **Expected** estimate for 2023: **\$4.5M**
- **Speculative** estimate for 2023: **\$4.7M**



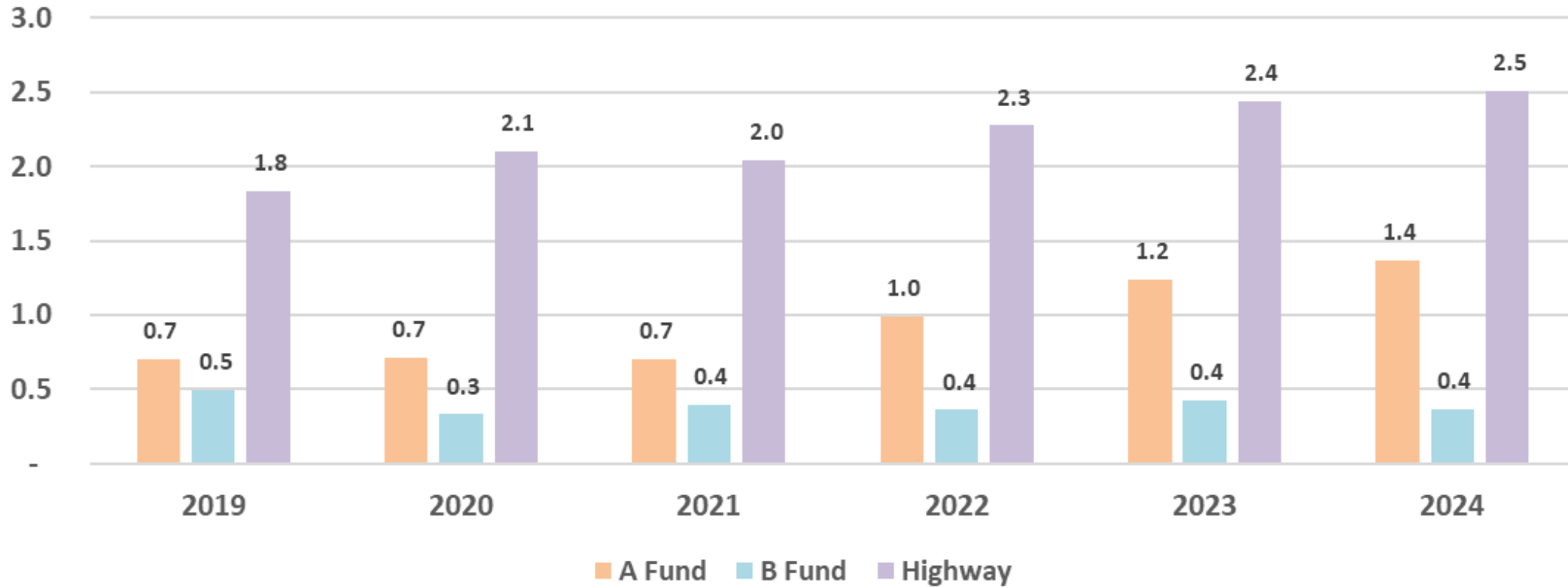
Mortgage Tax Revenue

- **Conservative** estimate for 2023: **\$545,000**
- **Expected** estimate for 2023: **\$560,000**
- **Speculative** estimate for 2023: **\$580,000**



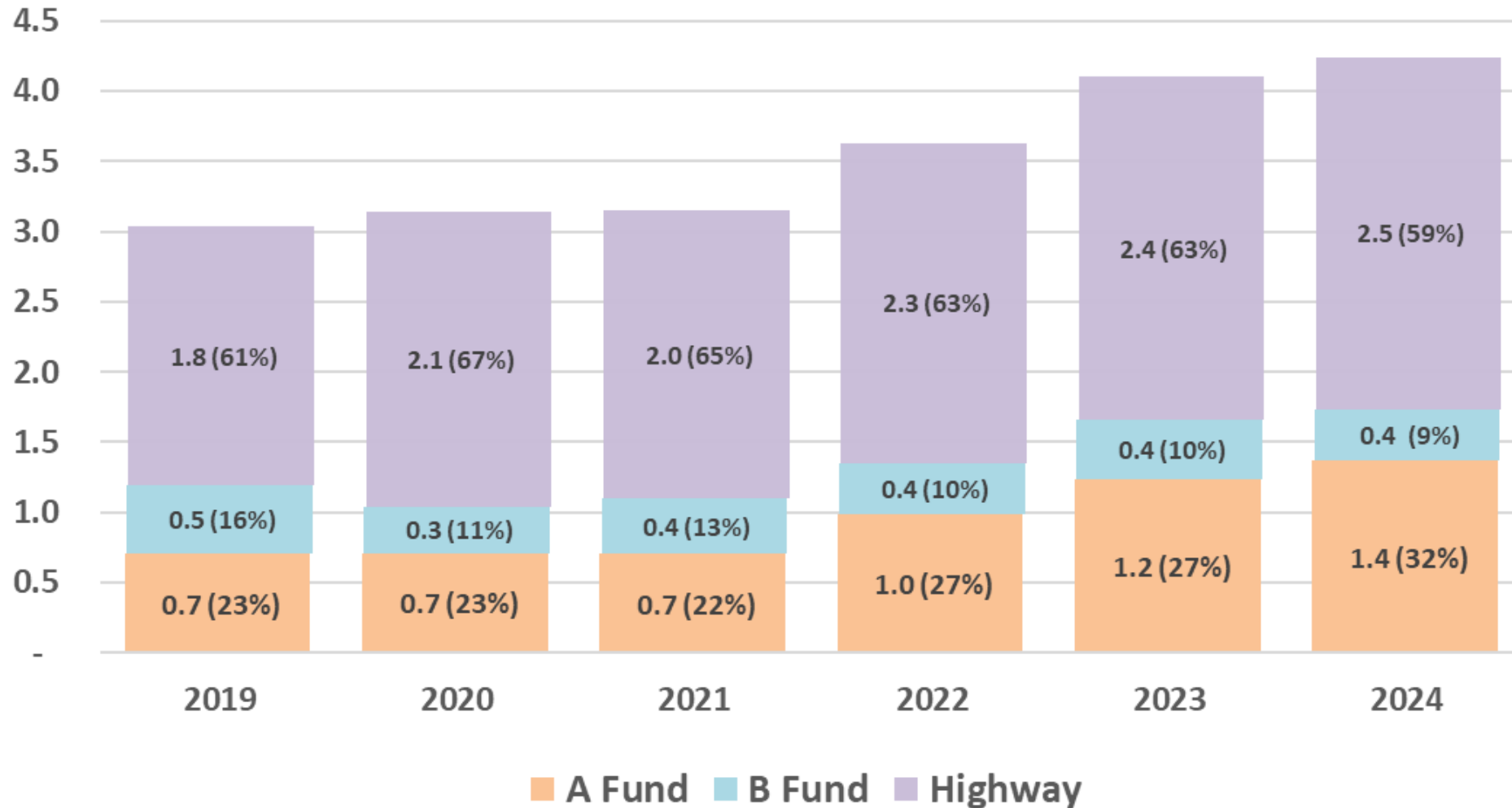
Sales Tax Revenue Budgets by Fund

\$ in millions



Sales Tax Revenue Budgets by Fund

\$ in millions

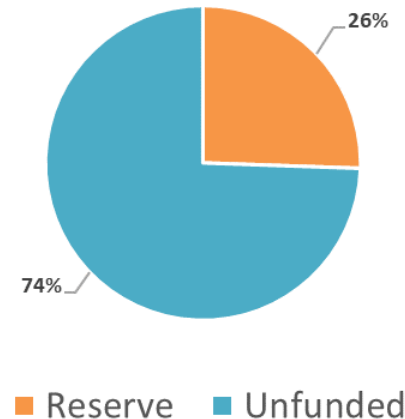


2023 Surplus

Similar to last year, the prevailing surplus in the current operating year must be appropriated or reserved to achieve balance and avoid fiscal stress.

	FY23 surplus (estimate):	\$550K	
(Fall 2023)	FY24 operating budget:	-\$262K	→
(Spring 2024)	<u>Highway garage reserve:</u>	<u>-\$217K</u>	
	Remaining:	\$ 71K	

Highway Garage Expansion
Debt Service Costs



Priorities for remaining surplus, if any:

- 1) Replenish Highway Garage Equipment Reserve (\$200K)
- 2) Establish Labor Agreement Reserve for new terms beginning in 2025 (\$100K-200K)
- 3) Establish a Highway Infrastructure Reserve (\$1.8M+)



Finley Road Bridge

■ Finley Road Bridge: \$1.8M+

- Circa 1926 bridge allows Finley Road to cross the Mourning Kill
- Owned and maintained by Town of Ballston
- Provides critical roadway connectivity serving 300+ vehicles per day
- M.J. Engineering has completed design.
- Construction cost will be \$1.8M+, depending on timing
- Multiple NYSDOT BridgeNY Grant applications unsuccessful thus far



2024 Investments – A Fund, B Fund

- **A Fund:** Design/Engineer Veteran’s Bike Trail expansion (\$236K PDR), Parks capital investment up to \$80K (\$50K PDR), Hillside Cemetery Repairs & Equipment (\$39K) (NYS Grant), Natural gas conversion for Town Hall (\$25K), 16% increase in employee health insurance (\$22K), Security Improvements for Town Hall (\$15K), 2% wage increase for employees (\$9K), Court Security Guard position (\$8K), 48% increase to HVAC outside services (\$7K), Assessor tax certiorari litigation (\$5K)
- **B Fund:** 2% wage increase for employees (\$5K), 4x PC upgrades (\$3.5K), increase professional development (\$1K), ~\$250K savings from removal of Saratoga County Sheriff’s contract and one-time purchase of a new Code Inspection vehicle in 2023.



2024 Investments – Highway

- Western Star Dump/Plow Truck (\$293K)
- Chevy 6500 Dump (\$104K)
- New guard rails on Outlet Road (\$60K)
- Up to \$1.50/hr across-the-board increase (\$50K)
- 3% wage increase per Collective Bargaining Agreement (~\$30K)
- 8% additional for asphalt/paving (\$35K)
- 16% increase to health insurance costs (\$21K)
- Additional seasonal employee to expand mowing capacity (\$9K)
- 14% additional for tree/brush removal (\$5K)
- 12% increase for vehicle fuel (\$5K)
- 2% increase in road salt (\$5K)
- 57% increase in Road Signs (\$4K)
- 25% increase in heating fuel (\$3K)

Permanent Improvements:

Council Meadows, from Kingsley to cul de sac: 0.11 miles

Lake Rd from Round Lake Rd to Eastline: 3.26 miles

Sweet Rd from Lake Rd to Eastline: 1.27 miles

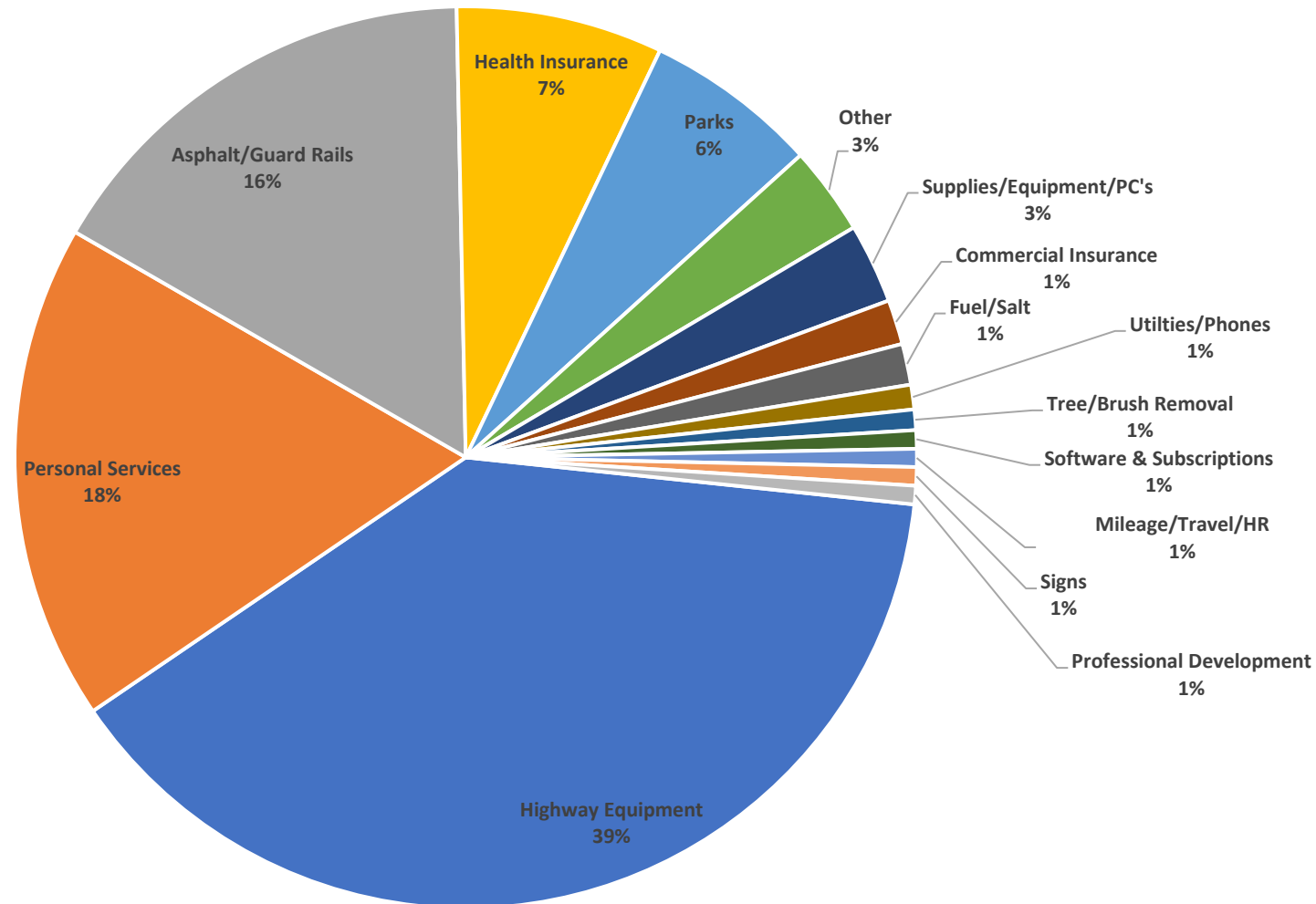
Mill Rd from 146a to 146a: 0.19 miles

Finley Rd. (if BridgeNY grant awarded) from Rt 67 to Town line: 0.31 miles

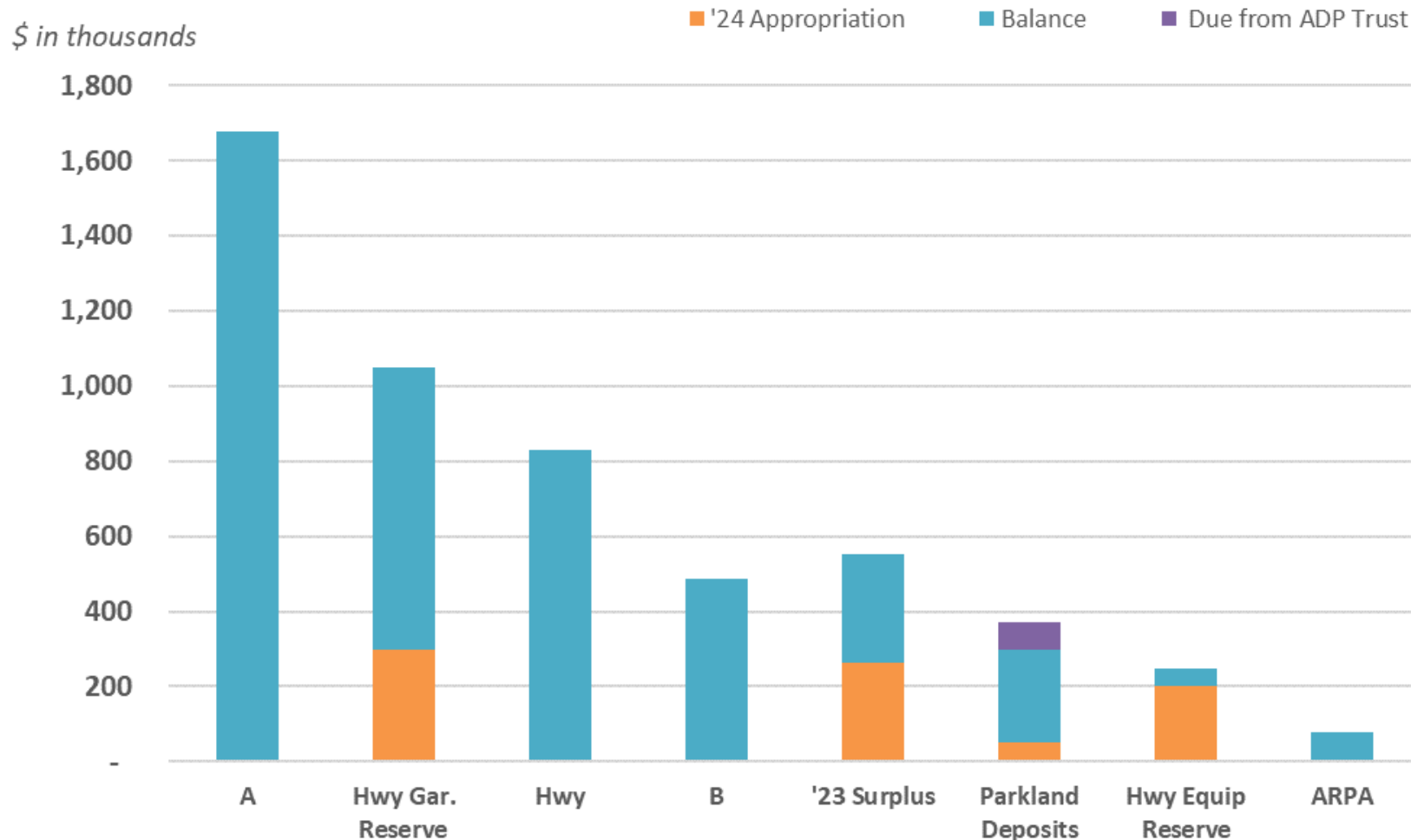
Total miles: 5.14 (7.8% more than 2023!)



2024 Investment Summary: A, B, Highway



Cash Balances: A, B, Highway



GCC Budget Request

Educational Courses:	\$1,500
Mailings:	6,200
Vendor Fair:	1,500
<u>Uniforms:</u>	<u>300</u>
Total:	\$9,500

Additional costs may be necessary to achieve/maintain Climate Smart Community status with NYS

