

CITY OF WOODLAND

COUNCIL POLICIES

CHAPTER 1 – FINANCE

POLICY 1-1 – FUND BALANCE POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish specific guidelines the City of Woodland will use to maintain an adequate level of fund balance to provide for cash flow requirements and contingency needs because major revenues, including property taxes and other government aids are received in the second half of the City's fiscal year.

The purpose of this policy is to also establish specific guidelines the City of Woodland will use to classify fund balances into a categories based primarily on the extent to which the City is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in these funds can be spent.

CLASSIFICATION OF FUND BALANCES

a) Nonspendable

- This category includes fund balance that cannot be spent because it is either (i) not in spendable form or (ii) is legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Examples include inventories and prepaid amounts.

b) Restricted

- Fund balance should be reported as restricted when constraints placed on those resources are either (i) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or (ii) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

c) Unrestricted

1. Committed

- Fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority. The committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action it employed to commit those amounts.
- The City's highest level of decision making authority (City Council) will annually or as deemed necessary commit specific revenue sources for specified purposes by resolution. This formal action must occur prior to the end of the reporting period, however, the amount to be subject to the constraint, may be determined in the subsequent period.

- To remove the constraint on specified use of committed resources the City Council shall pass a resolution

d) Assigned

- Amounts that are constrained by the government's intent to use for specified purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. Assigned fund balance in the General fund includes amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes.
- The City Council has delegated the authority to assign and remove assignments of fund balance amounts for specified purposes to the City Clerk and Treasurer.

e) Unassigned

- Unassigned fund balance represents the residual classification for the General fund. Includes amounts that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General fund. The General fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount.

FUND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

The City will maintain an unrestricted fund balance in combination of the General Fund the Road Improvement Fund of an amount not less than 50% of the next year's budgeted expenditures of the General Fund. This will assist in maintaining an adequate level of fund balance to provide for cash flow requirements and contingency needs because major revenues, including property taxes and other government aids are received in the second half of the City's fiscal year.

STABILIZATION ARRANGEMENTS

Stabilization arrangements are defined as formally setting aside amounts for use in emergency situations or when revenue shortages or budgetary imbalances arise.

The City will set aside amounts by resolution as deemed necessary that can only be expended when certain specific circumstances exist. The resolution will identify and describe the specific circumstances under which a need for stabilization arises. The need for stabilization will only be utilized for situations that are not expected to occur routinely.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The City Clerk and Treasurer shall annually prepare the status of fund balances in relation to this policy and present to the City Council in conjunction with the development of the annual budget.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the City's policy to first use restricted resources, and then use unrestricted resources as they are needed.

When committed, assigned or unassigned resources are available for use, it is the City's policy to use resources in the following order; 1) committed 2) assigned and 3) unassigned.

A negative residual amount may not be reported for restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances in the General fund.

Adopted by the Woodland
City Council 9-12-2011