



## **The Weekly Update – July 21, 2022**

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***Attachments:***

1. Journal of City Commission Work Session, July 5, 2022
2. Business Improvement District and Downtown Safety Alliance request for continuation of Coins for Cause Donation Containers on City light poles and approval letter from Manager Doyon through May 31, 2023.
3. City of Great Falls Pooled Investments as of June 30, 2022

**JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION**  
**July 5, 2022**

City Commission Work Session  
Civic Center, Gibson Room 212

Mayor Kelly presiding

**CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM**

**CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Kelly, Susan Wolff, Joe McKenney and Rick Tryon. Eric Hinebauch was excused.


**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Greg Doyon; City Attorney Jeff Hindoien and Deputy Attorney David Dennis; Finance Director Melissa Kinzler, Deputy Finance Director Kirsten Myre, Budget Analyst Andrea McCracken and Grant Administrator Tom Hazen; Park and Recreation Director Steve Herrig; Public Works Director Paul Skubinna; Fire Chief Jeremy Jones; Police Chief Jeff Newton; and, Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**


None.

**1. NOVEMBER 2022 ELECTION – MARIJUANA BAN ORDINANCE REFERENDUM.**

City Attorney Jeff Hindoien reviewed and discussed the following PowerPoint:

	<p><b>PURPOSE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Update to Commission re: Status of November 2022 Marijuana Referendum Process</li><li>➤ Election Timeline</li><li>➤ Proposed Resolution / Ballot / Ordinance Language</li></ul>										
<p><b>MARIJUANA REFERENDUM – BASIC TIMELINE</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="354 1591 773 1808"><thead><tr><th colspan="2">MARIJUANA REFERENDUM</th></tr><tr><th>Deadline</th><th>Item Due</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>CCM July 5, 2022</td><td>Work Sessions re: Specific Language of Resolution / Ordinance / Ballot Package</td></tr><tr><td>CCM July 19, 2022</td><td>Regular Commission Meeting – Action on Resolution to Submit Ordinance to Electors at November 8, 2022 Election</td></tr><tr><td>CCM November 8, 2022</td><td>Election Day</td></tr></tbody></table>	MARIJUANA REFERENDUM		Deadline	Item Due	CCM July 5, 2022	Work Sessions re: Specific Language of Resolution / Ordinance / Ballot Package	CCM July 19, 2022	Regular Commission Meeting – Action on Resolution to Submit Ordinance to Electors at November 8, 2022 Election	CCM November 8, 2022	Election Day	<p><b>SPECIFIC RESOLUTION / ORDINANCE / BALLOT LANGUAGE</b></p> <p><u>DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PACKAGE</u></p>
MARIJUANA REFERENDUM											
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**JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION**  
**July 5, 2022**

<p><b>ACTION TO BE TAKEN AT JULY 19, 2022 REGULAR MEETING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Commission will be considering and taking action on a <b>RESOLUTION</b> to refer an ordinance amendment to a vote of the electors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Will conduct a <b>PUBLIC HEARING</b> on the proposed Resolution</li> <li>➤ Will take action at the conclusion of the Public Hearing to either adopt or not adopt the Resolution</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ If adopted, Resolution will be certified and transmitted to Cascade County Election Administrator for inclusion on ballot in November</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>INDEPENDENT OF REFERENDUM PROCESS</b>, City staff is working to develop a proposed <b>regulatory framework</b> for consideration by the City Commission that <b>WILL ALLOW</b> the various commercial marijuana business categories to operate within the City of Great Falls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Dispensary (Adult-Use/Medical)</li> <li>➤ Cultivation</li> <li>➤ Manufacturing</li> <li>➤ Testing</li> <li>➤ Transporter</li> <li>➤ Combined Use (Tribal Licenses)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This <b>regulatory framework</b> would become effective in the event that the specific ban ordinance amendment is <b>REJECTED</b> by the electors in November</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This <b>regulatory framework</b> would become effective in the event that the City is <b>ORDERED</b> by a <b>Court</b> to allow commercial marijuana business activities within the City of Great Falls</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Timing of Consideration</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Commission Input / Discussion</p>
	

City Attorney Hindoen provided and discussed draft Resolution 10471. He commented that there is a pending lawsuit against the City for not allowing an adult-use marijuana dispensary within the city limits. He explained that City staff is considering the approach taken by Kalispell, which only allows marijuana business activities to operate in I-1 and I-2 zoning, subject to the state licensing constraints.

Mayor Kelly received clarification that there is a fair amount of I-1 and I-2 zoning within the city limits. He further received clarification that the public hearing is not about the legalization of marijuana; it is about whether or not to submit the question to a vote of the electors prohibiting all types of Commercial Marijuana Business categories from operating within the city limits.

Commissioner Wolff expressed support of keeping the ballot language as simple as possible.

Commissioner McKenney expressed support of bringing forward the ballot language for a Public Hearing,

**JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION**  
**July 5, 2022**

as well as discussing the framework with regard to I-1 and I-2 zoning for marijuana business activities.

Commissioner Tryon commented that the proposed ballot language is clearer than the original draft proposal. He received clarification that state licensing requirements have proximity limitations with regard to marijuana business activities located in I-1 and I-2 zoning districts, as well as signage or advertising is regulated at the state level.

It was the consensus of the Commission that City Attorney Hindoien proceed with bringing forward the resolution and ordinance for Commission consideration.

**2. 2023 BUDGET –CONTINUED DISCUSSION**

- Municipal Court Budget

Municipal Court Judge Steve Bolstad was unable to attend the work session.

- Summary of ARPA/CARES

Finance Grant Administrator Tom Hazen provided and discussed a Draft American Rescue Plan handout that included the following:

- Original ARPA Balance \$19,472,737
- Prior Approval for Project Cost \$150,000
- Total ARPA Usage in FY2023 Budget \$5,752,134
- Running Balance \$13,570,603
- 25% Contingency for Inflation of Tier 1 Projects
- Total Other Identified Uses \$14,306,654
- Funding proposals for projects from Planning and Community Development Director Raymond's June 24, 2022 Memo
- ARPA Balance \$736,051
- Original CARES Balance
- Prior Approval \$1,141,151
- Total CARES Act Usage in FY2023 Budget \$1,677,000
- Running Balance \$7,341,012
- Total Other Identified Uses \$7,373,564
- CARES Balance \$32,552
- Total HB632 Awards \$12,369,669

Mayor Kelly received clarification that a \$500,000 grant with the Historic Preservation Society for the seating at the Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts was not included on the draft American Rescue Plan handout.

Finance Director Melissa Kinzler reiterated that changes could be made to the draft American Rescue Plan

**JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION**  
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handout.

Grant Administrator Hazen explained that the legislature determines how much money is distributed with regard to the grant with the Historic Preservation Society and some of the identified uses for the Civic Center are Tier 2 projects. He added that additional infrastructure funds would not go directly to the City and the City would have to apply through state or federal agencies to secure those funds. Currently, two ARPA Applications have been received and the \$3 million cap of ARPA funding for City awards would more than likely be met.

Mayor Kelly reiterated that the Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA) proposals for the Milwaukee Station Gap Finance and Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund are not an “all or none” request. He received clarification that the Public Safety Radio and Fire Truck are debt services.

Commissioner Wolff received clarification that the money from the GFDA proposal for the Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund would remain with the GFDA.

Mayor Kelly stepped out at 6:28 and returned at 6:29 p.m.

- Summary of Development Incentives

Director Raymond provided and discussed a June 24, 2022 Memo regarding ARPA/CARES funding proposals that included the following:

Proposal 1: Reimbursement Fund.

Proposal 2: Belleview Palisades Storm Water Improvement Project.

Proposal 3: North End Storm Water Treatment Expansion.

Proposal 4: South End Infrastructure Expansion to New NeighborWorks Development.

Mayor Kelly expressed support of the ARPA/CARES funding proposals from the June 24, 2022 Memo.

**DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS**

City Manager Greg Doyon reported that topics for the July 19, 2022 work session include a GFDA/CARES Application, as well as a Public Safety Levy.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal work session of July 5, 2022 at 6:43 p.m.



City Manager's Office  
PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403  
(406)455-8450

July 18, 2022

Business Improvement District  
Downtown Safety Alliance  
318 Central Avenue  
Great Falls, MT 59401

Re: Coins for Cause Donation containers on City light poles

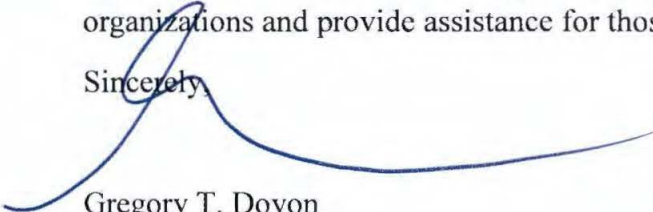
The City has received your request for a one year extension for the Coins for Cause donation containers on city owned light poles through May 31, 2023. This program was originally approved through Resolution 10211 and was amended through Resolution 10250 on July 3, 2018.

I am happy to extend the removal date of the containers to May 31, 2023, with all other requirements listed in the Resolution to remain in place.

1. The BID is authorized to place its Coins for a Cause donation boxes on City street light poles in the 400-500 blocks of Central Avenue in downtown Great Falls during the pilot program period of December 2017 through May 31, ~~2019~~ **2023**;
2. The BID shall install no more than eight (8) collection boxes, maintain and remove said collection boxes at its expense;
3. The BID shall be responsible for any damage to City light poles related to the installation or removal of said collection boxes; and
4. The Bid shall cause said collection boxes to be removed from City light poles no later than May 31, ~~2019~~ **2023**, unless otherwise agreed to in writing and extended by the Manager.

The City would like to commend you for your efforts to curb panhandling, support local organizations and provide assistance for those in need.

Sincerely,

  
Gregory T. Doyon  
City Manager





The Downtown Safety Alliance is writing to ask for an additional twelve-month extension, through May 31, 2023, to continue raising funds and awareness about panhandling downtown through the Coins for a Cause collection boxes currently located on the downtown light poles on Central Avenue.

We have now been able to have these collections boxes on Central Ave since 2018. In 2022, 19.4% of our donations for Coins for a Cause came from the boxes located outside on Central Ave, in 2020, 23.22%, in 2019, 25.94% and in 2018, 38.44% of our donations came from these boxes. The boxes have remained our largest source of donations for the program. We have collected \$81.01 from the boxes of our \$417.63 collected in 2021; \$80.28 of our \$345.69 total in 2020; \$224.92 of our \$867.03 total collected in 2019; and \$186.51 of our \$485.22 total collected in 2018. Our highest months of collections continue to fall in the summer months, with July being our highest month's collections at \$31.19 in 2021; \$28.76 in July 2020; August being our highest month's collections at \$132.75 in 2019 and July bringing in \$73.76 in 2018 (these figures are just from the outside collections boxes). Our statistics reflect that the visibility these outside boxes provide have increased our donations and have shown a proven benefit to the program. These statistics also reflect the reality of the year 2020, our hope is that we continue to increase the visibility of the program as well as a decrease in the instances of panhandling that are reported.

There are no costs associated with running the Coins for a Cause program, 100% of the donations generated from this program have been donated annually to local direct service providers. All costs for running this program have been absorbed by the Business Improvement District or generously donated by local businesses.

The overall value of the entire program has been proven through the funds we have been able to provide annually to direct service providers; we have no doubt, if asked, they would express that this program has proven to be valuable.

Attached is our Coins for a Cause informational sheet, updated for 2022. This sheet reflects the funds that have been donated annually and provided to direct service providers in our community.

We respectfully request an extension and appreciate your consideration and support of this vital program.



## Coins for a Cause

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The Downtown Safety Alliance, including the Business Improvement District, the Great Falls Police Department, NeighborWorks Great Falls, Downtown Great Falls Association, Great Falls Public Library, Speaking Socially and others, are sponsoring the program, *Coins for a Cause*, as an alternative to panhandling. Giving your spare change to panhandlers is only a short-term remedy that can propagate the poverty cycle and does not create a long-term solution. We encourage everyone to donate to Coins for a Cause or to your preferred direct service provider, like those listed below. Your donations will go directly toward providing panhandlers with the services they need, including food, shelter and more.



All donations collected from containers set up in various downtown businesses as well as along Central Avenue will be given to local organizations that provide direct services and resources to people in need. 100% of the donations received for Coins for a Cause are donated annually to direct service providers; the Downtown Great Falls office covers the costs of administering this program so no donations are used toward administration.

For 2013, \$509.96 was presented to the Great Falls Rescue Mission; for 2014, \$522.07 was presented to the YWCA; for 2015, \$537.45 was presented to Opportunities, Inc.; for 2016, \$558.42 was presented to the Grace Home; for 2017, \$348.63 was presented to the GFPD Volunteer Program; for 2018, \$485.22 was presented to Family Promise; and for 2019, \$867.03 was presented to St. Vincent de Paul; for 2020, \$345.69 was presented to the Center for Mental Health; for 2021, \$417.63 was presented to Whittier Elementary School for their food pantry.

Donating *your* spare change to Coins for a Cause will help curb panhandling, support local organizations, and provide assistance to those in need. These changes will help make our downtown safer and more vibrant for everyone who lives, works, plays or visits here.

The Great Falls Business Improvement District (BID) is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 and therefore your donation may be tax deductible. Your donation will help make a real change in someone's life.

Donation containers can be found at the following downtown businesses, as well as several outdoor boxes located in the 300 & 400 blocks of Central Ave:

- Dragonfly Dry Goods 504 Central Ave
- BID/DGFA 318 Central Ave
- NeighborWorks Great Falls 509 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S
- Taco Del Sol 16 6<sup>th</sup> St S
- Inge's 600 Central Ave
- Feather Your Nest 311 Central Ave
- Belles & Lace 320 Central Ave
- Kaufman's 411 Central Ave
- Brighten Up Shop 618 Central Ave
- Celtic Cowboy 116 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S
- GF Lumber 310 6<sup>th</sup> St S
- O'Haire Motor Inn 17 7<sup>th</sup> St S
- Hi-Line Climbing Center 608 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S
- Enbår 8 5<sup>th</sup> Street S
- Cassiopeia Books 606 Central Ave

To find out more about the program, schedule an informational session, or learn how you can host a donation jar, contact the Downtown Great Falls office at (406) 727-5430 or [info@greatfallsbid.com](mailto:info@greatfallsbid.com)





## Finance Department Memorandum

To: Greg Doyon, City Manager; City Commission; Members of the Investment Committee

From: Kirsten Myre, Deputy Finance Director

Date: July 14, 2022

Re: Total Cash and Investments as of June 30, 2022

The City of Great Falls' total cash and investments at the end of June 2022 was \$121,792,147.49. This included cash in bank accounts totaling \$8,721,544.46. Total cash and investments increased from \$106.2 million in May to \$121.8 million at the end of June. This significant increase is attributable to the second payment of American Rescue Plan funding (\$9.7 million) as well as property tax payments received annually in June. The General Fund cash balance increased from \$3.9 million in May to \$11.6 million in June, which is where most of the property tax payments are recorded. The graphs for the City's total cash and investments as well as the General Fund, specifically, are on the next pages. Cash balances in all funds are monitored on a monthly basis.

Also on the next page is the summary of the City's total cash and investments. The maturity dates of the City's investments run through December 31, 2022, which falls within the 5-year statutory limitation. The City's investment policy specifies the percentage the City of Great Falls must have of the different types of instruments allowed by state statute. The chart below lists those percentages compared to the City's investments as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. The investments in the Montana Board of Investments (STIP) and US Bank Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) are liquid and may be called at any time.

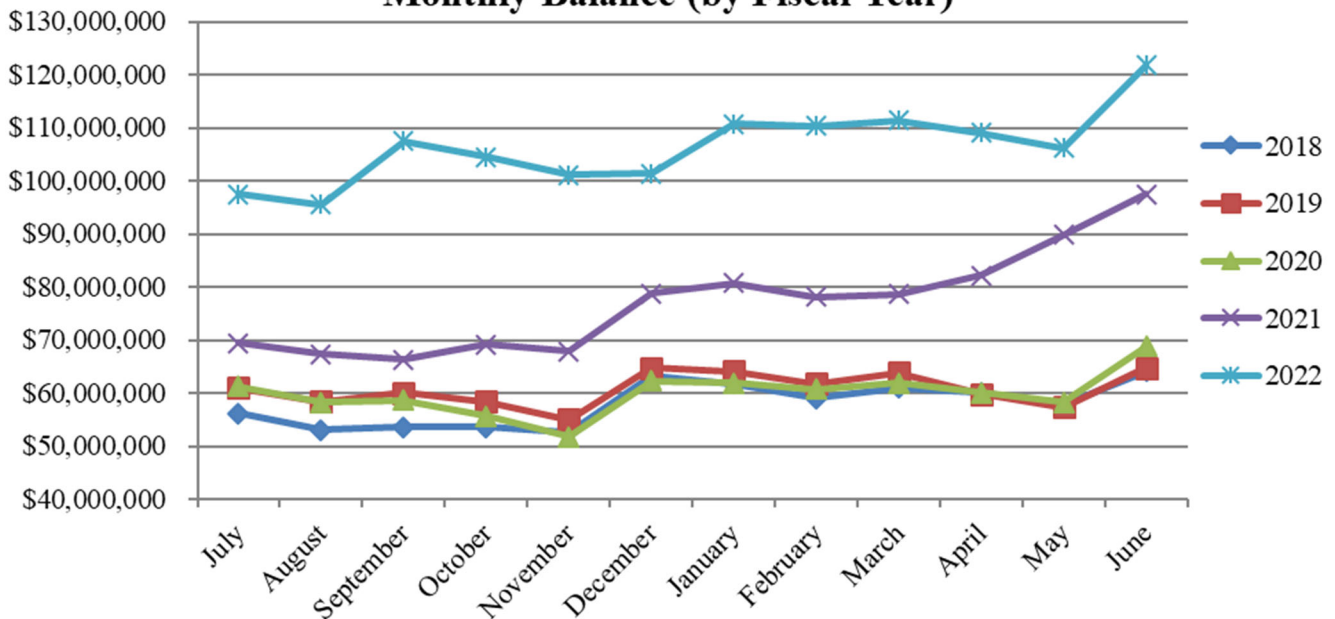
Issuer category	Minimum %	Maximum %	City's Investments % as of June 30, 2022
Master, savings, and ICS accounts	20% combined	100%	99.60%
Montana Board of Investments STIP		100%	
Money Market/Repurchase Agreements		100%	
Direct Obligations of the U.S. which includes Treasury Notes and Bills	0%	80%	0.40%
Obligations of agencies of the U.S.	0%	30%	0.00%

**City of Great Falls**  
**Total Cash & Investment Summary**  
**June 30, 2022**

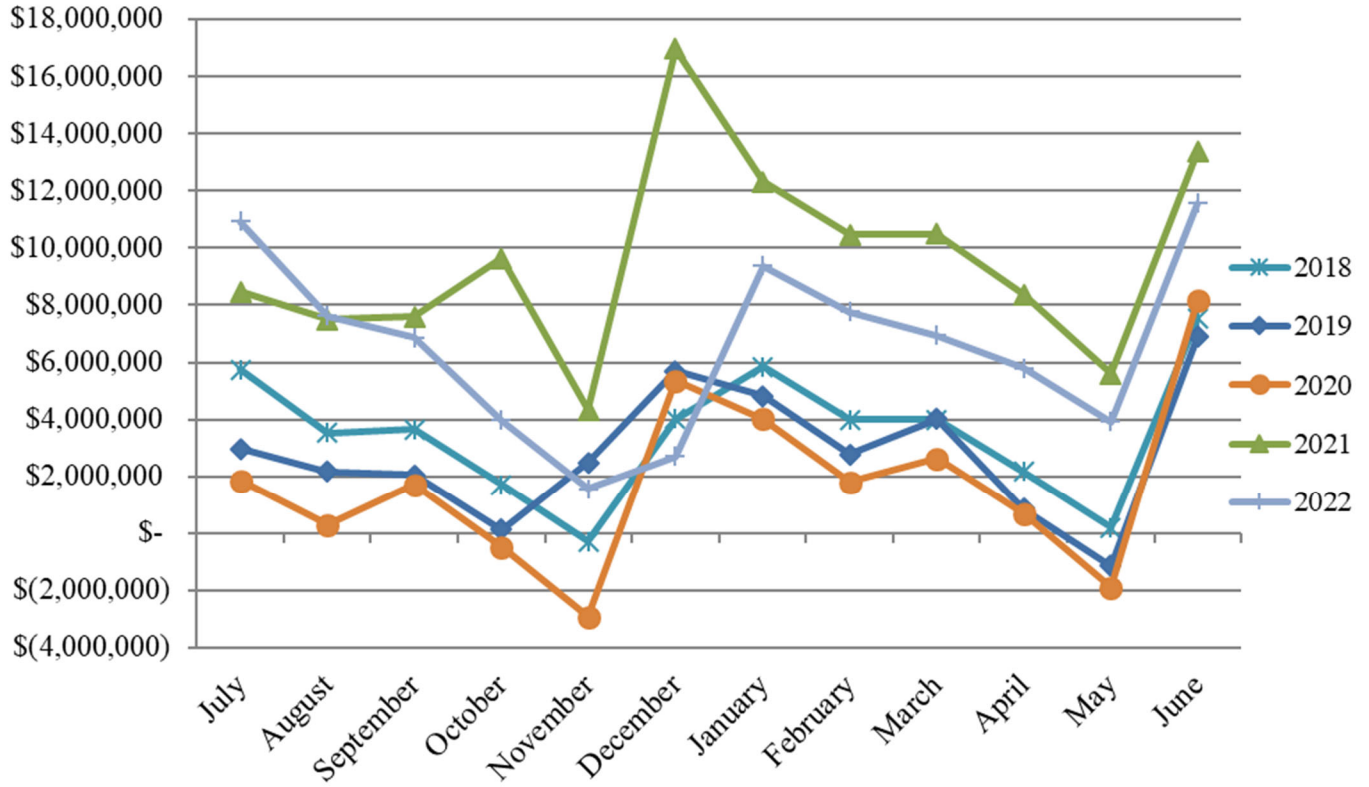
Description	Rate	Due Date	Principal Cost	Market Value
US Bank Investments				
US Treasury Note	1.625%	8/31/2022	240,742.19	249,994.25
US Treasury Note	2.125%	12/31/2022	245,390.63	249,511.75
Insured Cash Sweep	Variable		85,607,397.70	85,607,397.70
<b>Total US Bank Investments</b>			<b>86,093,530.52</b>	<b>86,106,903.70</b>
State of Montana Short Term Investment Pool (STIP)				
	1.167%		26,977,072.51	26,977,072.51
<b>Total Investments</b>			<b>113,070,603.03</b>	<b>113,083,976.21</b>
Cash on Hand, Deposits in Bank			8,721,544.46	8,721,544.46
<b>Total Cash and Investments</b>			<b>\$121,792,147.49</b>	<b>\$121,805,520.67</b>

Compared to previous years, total cash and investments is at a higher level. The higher levels can be attributed to receipt of American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding and bond funding from the Park Maintenance District and Downtown Tax Improvement District. These monies originally accounted for over \$35 million included in our total cash and investments and are being spent down as the Civic Center façade and new recreation center construction is completed. The ARPA funding will be spent down as it is allocated on a project by project basis.

**Total Cash & Investments**  
**Monthly Balance (by Fiscal Year)**



## General Fund Monthly Cash Balance (by Fiscal Year)



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (406) 455-8423 or [kmyre@greatfallsmt.net](mailto:kmyre@greatfallsmt.net).