

# City Beat

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## THE CITY BUDGET

*Budget Workshops to be held May 14-18\**

After four years of dramatic decline in revenues, Modesto is beginning to see a slight upward trend in sales and property tax revenues as it relates to the General Fund. At a recent mid-year budget review, City revenues for the current fiscal year were increased by \$1.1 million. While this is good news, expenditures continue to out-pace revenues and the City will likely face a \$4.1 million shortfall in the coming fiscal year.

The General Fund supports a wide variety of City services including those most visible to citizens – fire, police, park maintenance, graffiti abatement, economic development as well as general government. General Fund revenue comes primarily from major revenues, which includes sales and property tax.

Over the past several years, the City Council and City management and staff have worked diligently to focus on prudent spending that aligns with revenues in order to be able to continue providing core services to Modesto residents. The chart below illustrates the decline in General Fund revenue source since the recession began in 2007:

While we are seeing some positive revenue trends, financial challenges still lie ahead and the Modesto City Council will review revenues, expenses, services and programs to determine the most prudent financial path for the coming fiscal year. Difficult decisions will be made, and you have the chance to be a part of the discussion by participating in the Budget Workshops with the Modesto City Council Finance Committee in May, 2012.

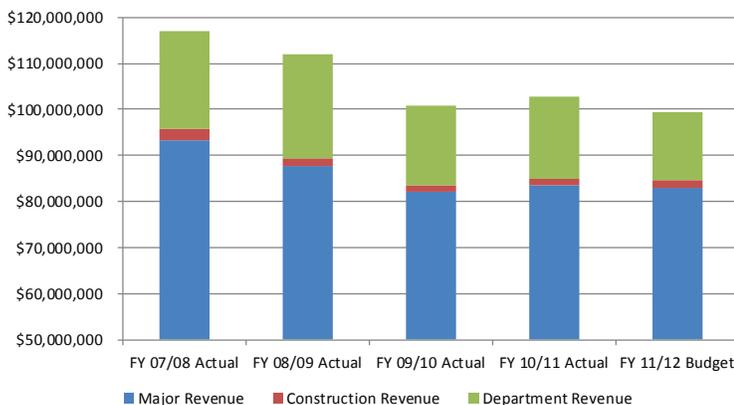
The Finance Committee takes the lead role in reviewing the Mayor's Proposed Budget which is a collaborative effort between City management and staff, the City Manager and the Mayor. The Finance Committee budget workshops are open to the public and are meant to increase the public's understanding and participation in the annual budget process. All City funds will be reviewed during these workshops, including the Water, Wastewater, Storm Drain and other smaller funds. It is more important than ever to voice your concerns and discuss which services are most important to you.

The budget workshops are scheduled\* as follows:

- Monday, May 14
- Tuesday, May 15
- Wednesday, May 16
- Thursday, May 17
- Friday, May 18

*\*All workshops are tentatively scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. in the Council Chambers at Tenth Street Place. For up-to-date information, visit [www.modestogov.com](http://www.modestogov.com) and click on "Budget Information" or call (209) 577-5369.*

**City of Modesto General Fund Revenues**



## TOWN HALL MEETING

~ Get to Know Mayor Marsh ~

Saturday, May 5, from 1-3 p.m. at the King-Kennedy Memorial Center  
 located at 601 South Martin Luther King Drive



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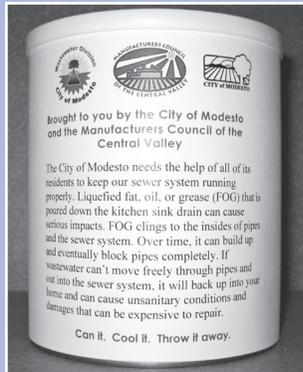
## EARTH DAY • APRIL 21, 2012

### Fats, Oil and Grease Program

Visit the Public Works Department's Wastewater booth in Graceada Park for a **FREE** FOG can, which will enable you to collect cooking oils and grease, let them cool, and then dispose of properly in your garbage.

When fats, oil, and grease, also known as FOG, are washed down the drain, they lead to sewage backups at home or in the community's sewer pipes. These backups can lead to costly damage to your home and the City's sewer system, pollute waterways, and threaten the environment.

By following a few simple steps, you can help keep your home's plumbing and our community's sewers trouble free!



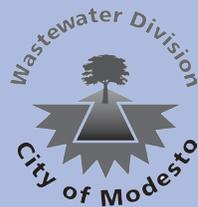
**Just Can It, Cool It, and Throw It Away!**

For more information about the City's FOG program, please visit:

[www.modestogov.com/pwd/wastewater/](http://www.modestogov.com/pwd/wastewater/)



A collective voice for manufacturing interests in California's San Joaquin Valley



## High Efficiency Toilet Residential Rebate Program

City of Modesto residential customers in single and multi-family homes may be eligible for rebates when they replace their old higher water use toilets.

For a qualifying list of toilets, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products/toilets.html> or call 209.342.2262.

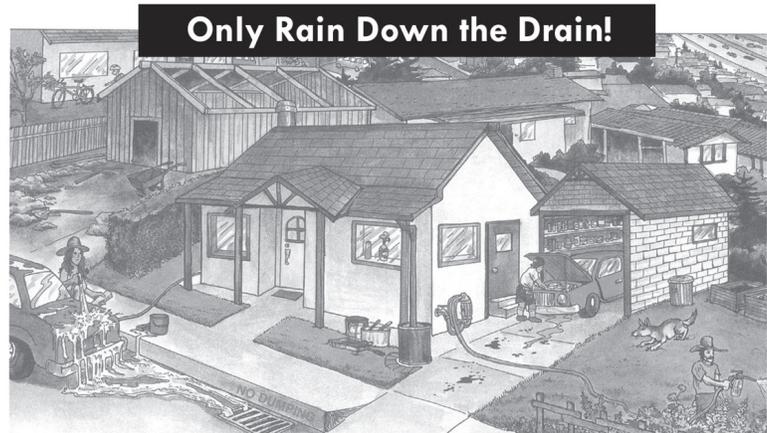


Replacing a high water use toilet with a High Efficiency Toilet (HET) of 1.28 gpf can save 38 gallons of water each day. A HET uses 20% less water per flush than older, less efficient models. Efficiency measures such as replacing water guzzling toilets with the latest in low-flush toilet technology helps ensure the future water supply is adequate and helps maintain low water rates.

For more information on this program and other ways to conserve water, visit:

[www.modestogov.com/pwd/utilities/water/conservation](http://www.modestogov.com/pwd/utilities/water/conservation)

## Modesto Dog Park Closed For Maintenance/Hydro-seeding NOW through the end of June 2012.



### PLEASE KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN!

Never pour used oil, paint, gasoline or chemicals down storm drains!

Report Pollution: (209) 577-6200 Recycle Used Oil & Filters: (209) 577-5493

Funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board



*Due to the nature of mailing the City Beat with the utility water bills, some of the events/programs may have already occurred.*