

# Budget Review 2025-26

## Sauvie Island Rural Fire Protection District 30J

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The total budget is decreasing by \$477,831 (38%) over the current year's adopted budget to \$796,003.
  - The beginning fund balance in the FY26 Approved budget is \$330,282 less than the current year's Adopted budget due to grant dollars received and not fully spent in previous years.
  - The current year's Adopted budget includes \$120,000 in grant funding and the district does not anticipate receiving any grant revenue in FY26.
- Expenditures will be \$374,169 in FY26 for fire protection services, a decrease of \$374,877 or 46%.
  - This is due to the spending of \$320,000 in grant dollars in the current year. The approved expenditures for FY 26 are more in line with the district's historical spending.
  - They will be spending \$65,460 on equipment maintenance to reduce deferred maintenance.

### INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Sauvie Island is located east of Highway 30 between Portland and Scappoose. The island is the largest along the Columbia River at 26,000 acres and one of the largest river islands in the United States. The island is also home to Sturgeon Lake, the largest island lake in the United States. The population on the island is over 3,000. The district is comprised of houseboats, conventional residences, farms, and 12,000 acres of wildlife area owned and managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The fire district's consists of five members elected to four-year terms, who serve without compensation. The district has received voter approval for a series of local option levies. The latest was in November 2024, when 83% of the voters approved the renewal of the five-year local option levy for \$0.3500 per \$1,000 of assessed value.



The fire district serves the Multnomah and Columbia County portions of Sauvie Island, northwest of Portland. In addition to serving the entire island, they provide mutual aid to Portland Fire & Rescue and Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District. In 2012, the district added a medical squad.

The district has a central station and two apparatus-only satellite stations. To reduce response time, the district is working to establish a third satellite station. This station will house some of the district's equipment, strengthening community safety by decentralizing emergency services and ensuring broader coverage. This project was funded through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and started in June 2024 and is expected to be completed in August 2025.

Thirty volunteers are providing the island with fire and rescue services. Firefighting apparatuses include three fire engines, two tenders, an all-terrain utility vehicle, emergency medical support vehicles, and a rescue boat.

In June 2024, using grant funds, the district added this Air Boat to their fleet. It was used recently to rescue two people who were stranded on an island for over 12 hours when the jet ski failed in the shallow water. The Air Boat 32's ability to navigate in the shallowest of water has proven to be very valuable.

The district focuses on **staff** (providing training for 30 volunteer firefighters), **equipment** (repairing and replacing outdated equipment), and **facilities** (upgrading the district's facilities on the island and adding substations). The Sauvie Island Fire District's Board and the Fire Chief maintain the goal of replacing equipment and providing facility upgrades by using grants, donations from other districts, trades, and reserve funds, as opposed to acquiring debt proceeds for replacement). The district was able to acquire a new fire truck purchased with grant dollars received in FY 22.



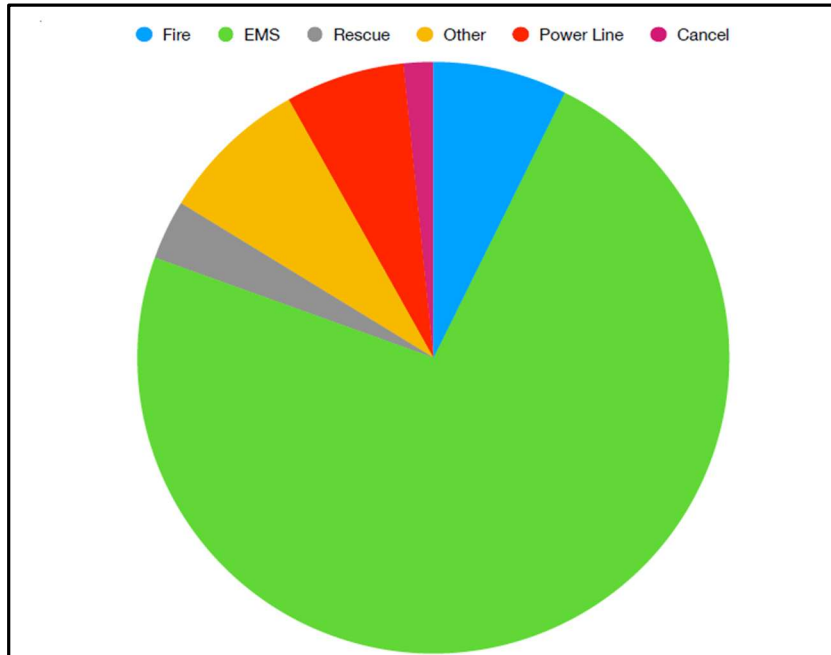
Sauvie Island RFPD 30J	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Assessed Value in Millions	\$201.6	\$209.0	\$213.7	\$221.0
Real Market Value (M-5) in Millions	\$322.0	\$372.3	\$370.6	\$374.2
Property Tax Rate Extended:				
Operations	\$0.7894	\$0.7894	\$0.7894	\$0.7894
Local Option	\$0.3500	\$0.3500	\$0.3500	\$0.3500
Total Property Tax Rate	\$1.1394	\$1.1394	\$1.1394	\$1.1394
Number of Employees (FTE's)	1	1	1	1

## BUDGET OVERVIEW

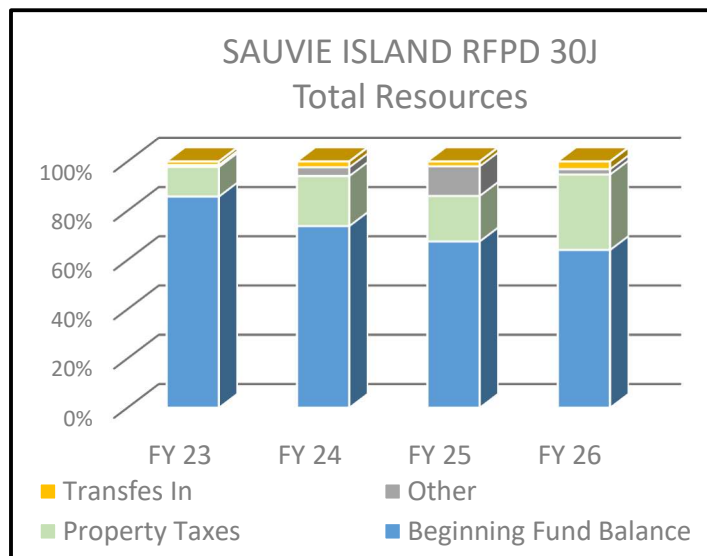
The district's primary funding source is its permanent property tax levy and the local option levy. In FY26, Permanent Rate property taxes will provide \$169,000 in resources and the Local Option Levy will add another \$75,000. All revenue is received in the General Fund. The district's other revenue includes interest on investments, donations and contribution. They also receive States Reimbursement revenue for providing firefighters and apparatus support to other districts and states. The FY26 Approved Budget does not include any revenue from States Reimbursement.

The district transfers money to the Capital Reserve Fund, making resources available for capital needs. A few years back, the board recommended holding an amount roughly equal to six months operating expenditures in the Capital Reserve Fund that could be transferred back to the General Fund if needed. This budget reflects a \$124,000 reserve for operating expenses and \$178,717 for future capital needs.

The chart on the right gives the district's breakdown of service calls during the 2024 calendar year and provides an example of a typical year. As shown, the majority of the district's calls were for emergency medical services.



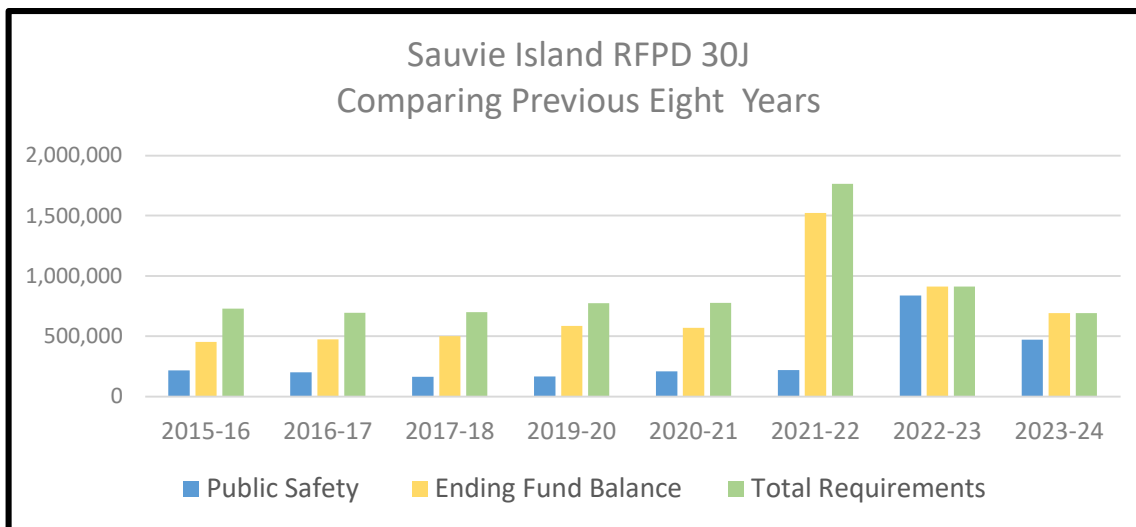
## RESOURCES



Revenue for the district remains relatively flat for all years, except for the grant money received in FY 24, shown in the chart as "Other." These dollars are also reflected in the FY 23 beginning fund balance as carry-over from grant dollars received in FY 22. Property taxes are 93% of the district's FY 26 revenue (\$244,000). Other sources in this budget include interest earned on investments, and donations. The beginning fund balance decreased just over \$350,000 as the district spends down the grant dollars received.

## REQUIREMENTS

Historically, requirements for the district have remained relatively the same year after year as seen in the following graph comparing the last eight years of actual audited numbers. The spikes that happen are due to unanticipated resources and uncommon spending. As mentioned, this happened with the grant dollars received in fiscal 2022. They were carried into FY 23 and FY 24 and spent on various equipment to enhance the districts ability to serve the island community.



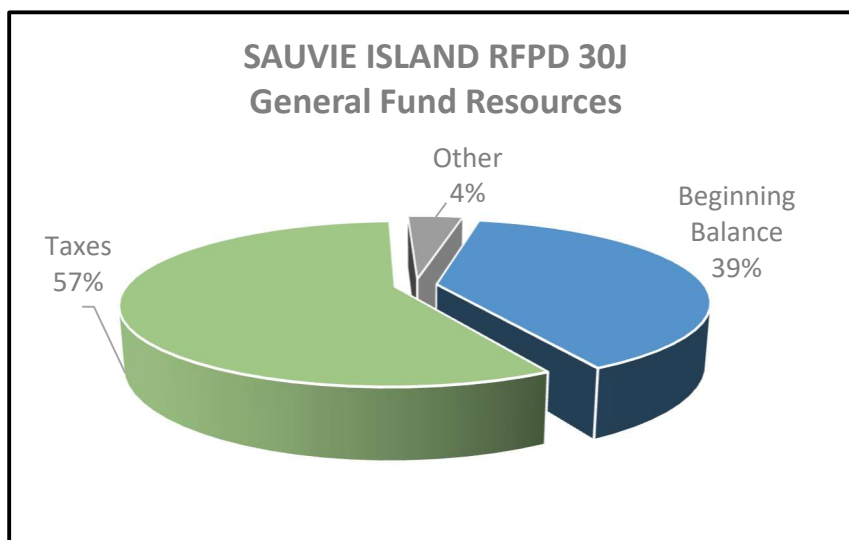
For FY 2025-26, the total requirements, \$796,003, look more like the past several years' budgeted requirements prior to the grant dollars. Of this nearly \$800 thousand, 62% is allocated for public safety expenditures (\$689,169); and 34% is set aside in Ending Fund Balance (\$376,126) to carry into the following year.

## GENERAL FUND

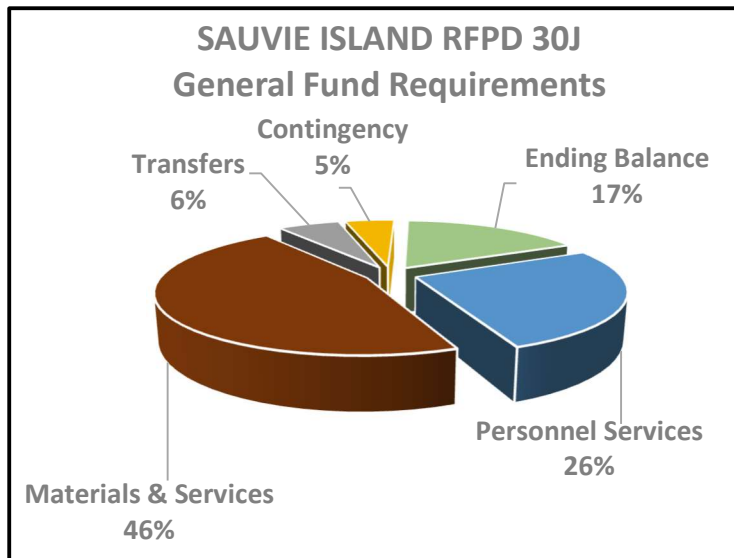
The fire district uses the General Fund for all district operational expenditures. The total for this fund is \$426,000, a 52% decrease over the current year due to absence of grant funding.

### GENERAL FUND RESOURCES

All revenue is received in the General Fund. Property taxes contribute the most significant share (57%). The fund balance (\$165,000) makes up 39% of the resources. Interest on investments, donations, and previous years' tax receipts make up the other income (\$17,000). The district's resources are stable year over year income.



## GENERAL FUND REQUIREMENTS



The expenditure categories are **personnel services** (\$111,451) and **materials & services** (\$196,140), which indicates a reduction of \$275,584 over the current year's M&S expenses, since FY25 year includes \$320K set aside for the materials needed for the new satellite station. **Transfers** (\$25,000) to the Capital Reserve Fund are consistent with previous years' transfers.

**Contingency** and **ending fund balance** total 22% of the requirements. **Personnel services** are included in the General Fund. These expenditures provide the fire chief's salary (budgeted for 0.5 FTE at \$64,170) and other wages

(\$32,430), covering operational help needed and to add an additional part time firefighter during the busy summer months.

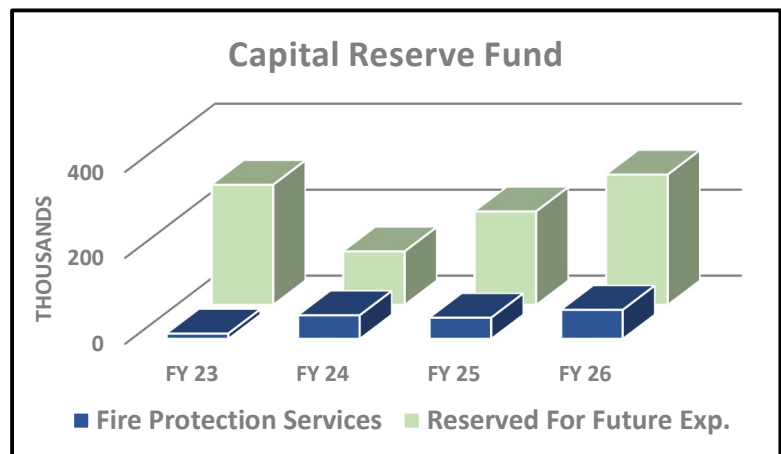
The "heavy hitters", those above \$10,000, within the **materials and services** category are:

- Fleet maintenance (\$65,460), bumped up in this budget from \$30,900 to address the deferred maintenance, such as brake-work, and other necessary equipment maintenance
- Contracted services (\$34,932), including \$17,508 for the 911 Bureau of Emergency Communications, auditor service expenses, and a bookkeeper hired to help with the budget
- Property and liability insurance (\$20,077)
- Volunteer service incentives (\$18,000), covering expenses for volunteers, the Length of Service Award plan, and incentives for physical fitness, physical exams, and vaccinations
- Administrative expenses (\$11,793)
- Firefighting and other Emergency equipment and medical supplies (\$11,600)

## OTHER FUNDS

### CAPITAL RESERVE FUND - \$370,003

The district has only one other fund, the Capital Reserve Fund. The only sources of revenue are transfers from the General Fund and interest earned on investments. Expenditures (\$67,286) budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year are for new equipment (\$67,156), and maintenance fees (\$130). The remaining \$302,717 is reserved for future expenditures. This fund and grant dollars have allowed the district to take advantage of equipment sales or other capital expenditures when they become available.



## DEBT STATUS

The district has no debt.

## BUDGET PROCESS & COMPLIANCE

Yes	No	Compliance Issue
	x	Did the district meet publication requirements?
x		Do resources equal requirements in every fund?
x		Are contingencies shown only in operating funds?
x		Did the budget committee approve the Budget?
x		Did the budget committee set the levy?
x		Does the audit show the district was in compliance with budget law?

## LOCAL BUDGET LAW COMPLIANCE

The FY 2025-26 Budget is in substantial compliance with local budget law, with one exception. Estimates were judged to be reasonable for the purpose shown.

Per statute, budget committee meetings must be noticed twice five to 30 day prior to the meeting. The district correctly provided the first notice of the budget committee meeting for the first time 13 days prior to the meeting. However, due to a change in management at the newspaper they typically use for publication, they were unable to publish the second notice until two days prior to the meeting. This has not been a repeated pattern, and the district is aware of the correct publishing requirements but was unable to comply due to administrative issues. Therefore staff is not recommending a recommendation or objection related to this compliance issue.

The audit report for FY 2023-24 does not note any exceptions.

## CERTIFICATION LETTER RECOMMENDATIONS & OBJECTIONS

TSCC staff notes no deficiencies in the district's FY 2025-26 budget development process and is not recommending any recommendations or objections for the certification letter.

## Sauvie Island RFPD 30

	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	%
	Actual	Actual	Revised	Approved	Change
<b><u>SUMMARY OF ALL FUNDS</u></b>					
<b>PROPERTY TAX BREAKDOWN:</b>					
Permanent Rate Property Taxes	148,800	215,813	164,600	169,000	2.7%
Local Option Levy Property Taxes	64,323	0	71,000	75,000	5.6%
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAX</b>	<b>213,123</b>	<b>215,813</b>	<b>235,600</b>	<b>244,000</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b>RESOURCES:</b>					
Beginning Fund Balance	1,522,245	908,476	860,234	510,003	-40.7%
Property Taxes	213,123	215,813	235,600	244,000	3.6%
Other Income	14,364	37,605	153,000	17,000	-88.9%
Transfers In	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	0.0%
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>1,774,732</b>	<b>1,186,894</b>	<b>1,273,834</b>	<b>796,003</b>	<b>-37.5%</b>
<b>REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT:</b>					
Personnel Services	81,965	148,016	168,515	111,451	-33.9%
Materials & Services	743,528	224,439	471,724	196,140	-58.4%
Capital Outlay	12,124	98,633	48,930	67,286	37.5%
Fund Transfers	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	0.0%
Contingencies	0	0	20,000	20,000	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	912,115	690,806	539,665	376,126	-30.3%
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT</b>	<b>1,774,732</b>	<b>1,186,894</b>	<b>1,273,834</b>	<b>796,003</b>	<b>-37.5%</b>
<b><u>SUMMARY OF BUDGET - BY FUND</u></b>					
General Fund	1,483,498	882,784	883,882	426,000	-51.8%
Capital Reserve Fund	291,234	304,110	389,952	370,003	-5.1%
<b>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>1,774,732</b>	<b>1,186,894</b>	<b>1,273,834</b>	<b>796,003</b>	<b>-37.5%</b>
<b><u>DETAIL OF GENERAL FUND</u></b>					
<b>RESOURCES:</b>					
Beginning Fund Balance	1,256,011	629,366	495,282	165,000	-66.7%
Property Tax	213,123	215,813	235,600	244,000	3.6%
Other Income	14,364	37,605	153,000	17,000	-88.9%
Transfers In	0	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL FUND RESOURCES</b>	<b>1,483,498</b>	<b>882,784</b>	<b>883,882</b>	<b>426,000</b>	<b>-51.8%</b>
<b>REQUIREMENTS:</b>					
Public Safety	825,493	416,424	640,239	307,591	-52.0%
Transfers Out	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	0.0%
Contingencies	0	0	20,000	20,000	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	633,005	441,360	198,643	73,409	-63.0%
<b>TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>1,483,498</b>	<b>882,784</b>	<b>883,882</b>	<b>426,000</b>	<b>-51.8%</b>

