

Yearly review covers annual budgets for all districts

Happy Thanksgiving! Hope you are having a wonderful holiday. If you are reading this early Thanksgiving morning, my family and I are at the Ocala Turkey Trot 5K. Yours truly is the person who holds the jackets and cheers for the rest of the family and other runners.

This has been our family tradition for the last 10 years, however I wasn't sure if my two kids in college still would want to do it. But when I texted them to see if we should sign them up, they all responded yes and wondered why I even would ask. So the whole family will be together ... I'm a happy mom!

Speaking of traditions, this is the time of the year that I traditionally provide you with a brief overview of the new fiscal year budget.

Over the last nine months, the Districts' elected boards and staff have been working hard to create the fiscal year 2014-15 budgets. These budgets were adopted during the September board meetings for the start of the new fiscal year Oct. 1.

The budgets are posted on the District's website, districtgov.org, for you to view. On the website you can click on the tabs for the individual districts to view their line-item budgets, capital outlay lists and maintenance assessment schedules for that district's funds.

The total fiscal year 2014-15 adopted budgets for all 47 funds in our 15 districts is \$243,942,942. Most residents are very surprised to learn that the District is responsible for so much money.

The Village Center Community Development District



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Board approved the fiscal year 2014-15 Village Center Final Adopted Budgets for 10 funds for a total budget of \$93,563,340.

One of the 10 funds is the Recreation Amenities Division Fund for amenity fee revenue and expenditures north of County Road 466. The RAD total budget is \$41,457,396.

The Amenity Authority Committee worked with staff and residents during the budget process to develop a RAD budget that includes numerous capital projects. The Amenity Authority Committee then recommended the RAD budget to the VCCDD Board for adoption.

The remaining budgets approved by the VCCDD Board are the General Fund (\$22,221,994), the Village Center Service Area Utilities Fund (\$6,628,917), the Little Sumter Service Area Utilities Fund (\$10,059,389), Department of Public Safety Fund (\$10,990,159), Village Center Road Maintenance Fund (\$164,620), Village of Spanish Springs Fund (\$1,048,866), Rolling Acres Plaza Fund (\$101,562), Mulberry Fitness Center Fund (\$155,422) and the Community Standards Fund (\$735,015).

The Sumter Landing Community Development District Board approved the fiscal year 2014-15 final adopted budgets for four funds that total

\$31,325,982.

The four funds are the Lake Sumter Landing Fund (\$1,832,070), Project Wide Fund (\$8,923,018), Sumter Landing Fitness Fund (\$667,457) and Sumter Landing Recreation Amenities Division Fund (\$19,903,437). The SLAD Fund accounts for the amenity fee revenue and expenditures south of CR466.

The North Sumter County Utility Dependent District Board is responsible for approving proposed budgets for two funds and since it is a dependent district, the final budgets are adopted by Sumter County Board of Commissioners.

The two funds consist of the North Sumter Utility Fund (\$20,087,246) and the new Sumter Sanitation Fund (\$11,229,962) for a total of \$31,317,208.

The Brownwood Community Development District Board approved the fiscal year 2014-15 final adopted budget for the Brownwood Fund for a total budget of \$1,271,585.

Each of the 11 numbered districts has a budget and the total adopted budget for all 11 districts is \$86,464,827, including \$23,199,341 for the numbered districts' general (operating) funds and \$63,265,486 for the debt service/capital projects funds.

The major source of revenue for the numbered districts' general funds is from the annual maintenance assessments. The maintenance assessment is paid by residents once a year and billed on your annual tax bill.

You should have received your tax bill a few weeks ago,

on which your maintenance assessment amount is reflected under the non-ad valorem section.

The boards and the District's team continue to work diligently to be the best stewards of the District's funds to ensure that the current level of service is maintained not only for this fiscal year but also for future years.

Now that the holiday season has begun, visit districtgov.org for the sanitation holiday pick-up schedule, holiday closures and meeting schedules. If you are having holiday guests, please get their guest passes as soon as possible to avoid the

rush.

Let us all give thanks and count our blessings as we celebrate Thanksgiving today. Be sure to enjoy the many activities in The Villages to work off those extra Thanksgiving calories and we will meet

back here next week at Our Place.

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