

CONCLUSION

This Budget Summary is intended to provide a general overview of the FY 2009 budget document and to highlight some of the more significant program changes and policy issues addressed in the budget document. The sections that follow the *Budget Summary* section provide more detailed information about the city's organizational structure, its goals and objectives, and operating budgets for each city department.

Documents comprising the foundation for Glendale's annual budgeting process have been included in this budget document as well. The *Financial Plan* and *Financial Policies* documents identify and explain the strategies used to meet and stabilize city revenues and expenses, and ensure the continuity and reliability of basic services. The *Five-Year Forecast* addresses the long-term financial projection for city revenues and expenditures.

In addition, the city is continuing to work on the implementation of a new *business model* and departmental *business plans* that were initiated in FY 2004 and continue to be based on the City Council's strategic priorities. In future city budgets, the Mayor and Council's vision for the community will continue to be outlined and then translated into specific actions and programs through departmental business plans. This will then guide the budget process to ensure the Council goals are achieved through each dollar spent by the city.

The long-range blueprint for the financing and construction of large projects is contained in the *Capital Improvement Plan*. The *Schedules* section contains detailed information about the City of Glendale's fund accounting system, operating revenues and expenditures, debt service and authorized staffing levels.

A *Frequently Asked Questions* (FAQ) guide is included in the appendix to help clarify the words and phrases that may have specialized meaning when applied to municipal government budgeting practices. This FAQ document is a good primer for those who wish to brush up on their financial terminology or want to find parallels between their own personal budgets and the city's overall budget.

The City of Glendale publishes several other documents that may be of interest and assistance in understanding city operations. These include the *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report* and *Debt Management Plan*, available from the Finance Department; the *Glendale General Plan*, which was overwhelmingly approved by voters in 2002 and is available from the Planning Department; and the *Glendale Annual Report* distributed by the Marketing Department.

Questions, comments or observations regarding this Annual Budget document should be directed in writing to:

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