City of Glendale

Utility Users Tax Funding Elimination Initiative

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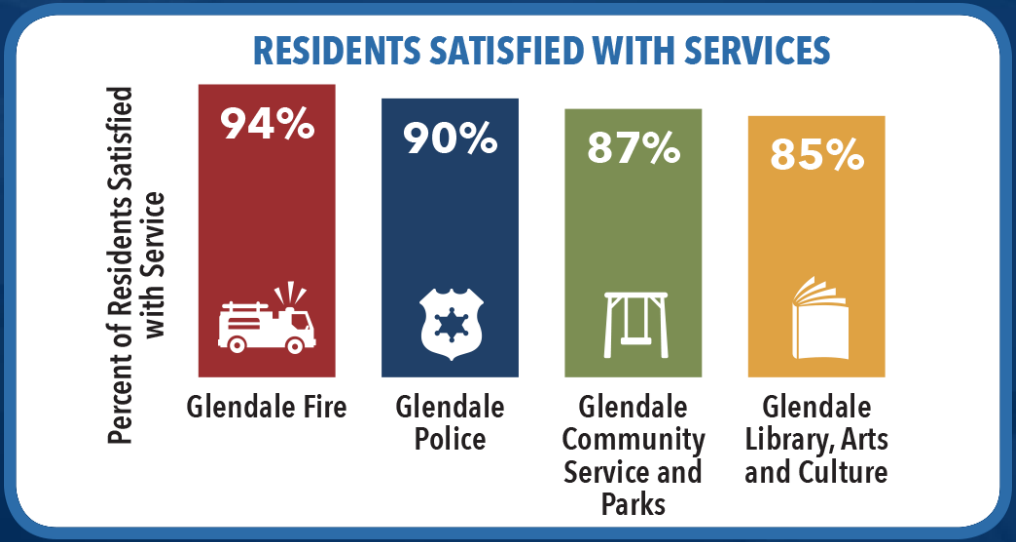
90% Say Glendale is a Great Place to Live

- Glendale has a long tradition of safe neighborhoods, good schools and a vibrant business community
- A recent survey found that 90% of Glendale residents rate our city as a great place to live
- Residents place a high value on our prime location, safe neighborhoods and strong quality of life



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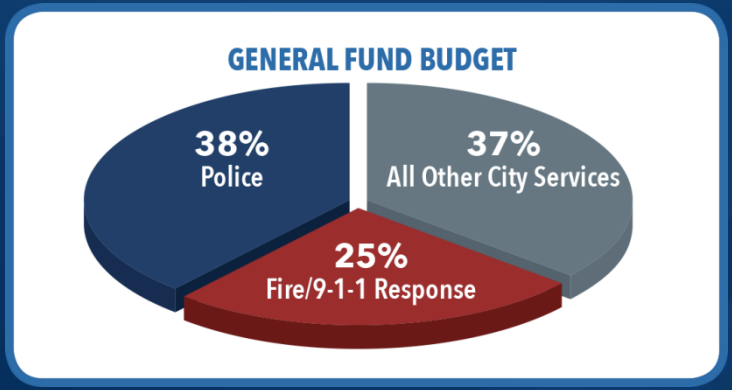
City Government Downsized During the Recession

- The slowing of the economy reduced Glendale's city budget by $29.5 million
- As a result of the recession, the city has made deep cuts since 2008
- Cuts included the elimination of 406 city employee positions, a reduction of 25% of the City's workforce
- Strong efforts were made to protect public safety services like 9-1-1 response, police patrols and fire protection from cuts
- Police, fire and paramedics account for 63% of the current, reduced budget and further reductions would require cuts to these public safety and emergency response services



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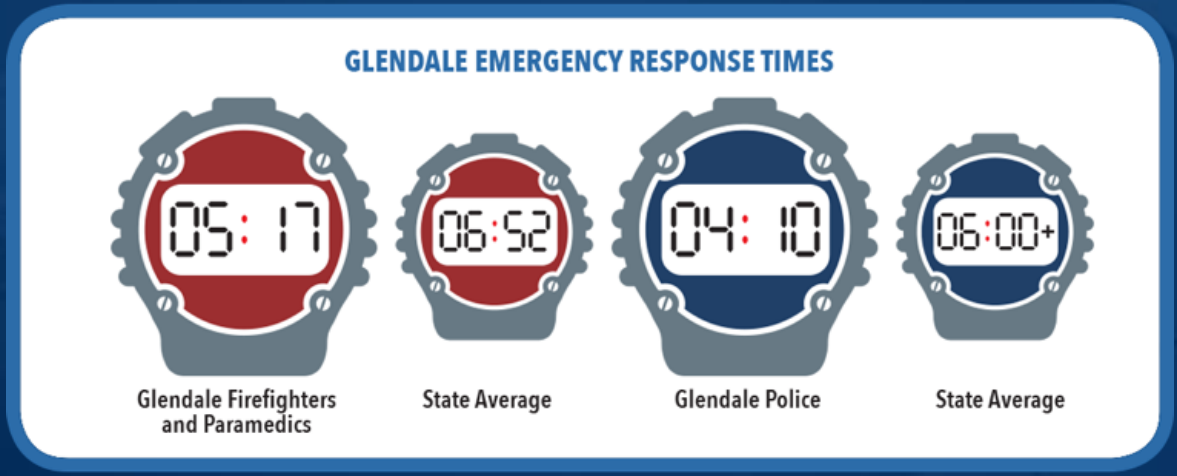
Maintaining Rapid Emergency Response Times, Despite Cuts

- The City of Glendale Fire Department and Police Department are among the fastest responders to emergencies in the state



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Proactive Reforms to Control Costs

- In order to control long-term costs, Glendale became one of the first cities in California to voluntarily implement pension reforms to limit future employee retirement costs
- Glendale city employees pay a larger share of their own retirement costs than employees of any other city in the state
- By leading the way with these reforms, Glendale's two-tier retirement system is saving millions of dollars

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Upcoming Vote: Initiative to Eliminate UUT Funding

- A small group of individuals collected signatures to qualify an initiative for the upcoming June 2016 ballot
- If approved by local voters, this initiative would permanently eliminate Glendale's Utilities Users Tax (UUT) on electricity, gas and water
- Glendale's UUT generates $17.5 million in locally controlled revenue every year
- It has been in place since 1969 and was reaffirmed by 66% of local voters in 2009
- The UUT is the third largest source of revenue for Glendale city services
- This initiative is NOT city sponsored

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What Your Vote on UUT Funding Elimination Initiative Means

- A <u>yes</u> vote means:
  - $17.5 million in cuts to public services
  - Impacts to emergency call response times
  - Eliminating police officers
  - Eliminating firefighters
  - And more cuts
- A <u>no</u> vote means:
  - Maintaining $17.5 million in annual UUT funding
  - Maintaining city services at current levels

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Impact of Further Funding Cuts for City Services

- Eliminating annual UUT funding would:
  - Eliminate 53 full-time sworn police officer positions
  - Eliminate 37 firefighter positions
  - Close the equivalent of two Fire Stations
  - Eliminate the Police Department's DNA Crime Lab

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Impact of Further Funding Cuts for City Services

- Eliminating annual UUT funding would also:
  - Reduce the number of on-duty paramedics
  - Eliminate specialized Fire Department Emergency Service personnel, including the emergency preparedness unit, the arson investigator, hazardous materials response team and the search and rescue team
  - Eliminate youth anti-gang and anti-drug prevention programs
  - Reduce pothole repair and maintenance of city streets, storm drains and other critical city facilities and infrastructure
  - Close most libraries in Glendale and eliminate librarians and library staff

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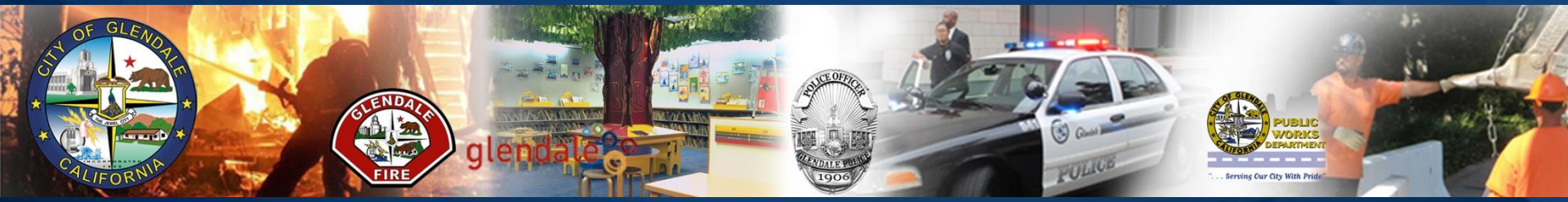
Tell Us What You Think

- In preparation for the vote on the Glendale UUT Funding Elimination Initiative, the City is identifying and prioritizing potential cuts
- Please contact us with your priorities for increasing 9-1-1 response times, eliminating over 50 police officers, eliminating nearly 40 firefighters and other cuts
- Visit our website with your comments and questions at: www.GlendaleUUT.com



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