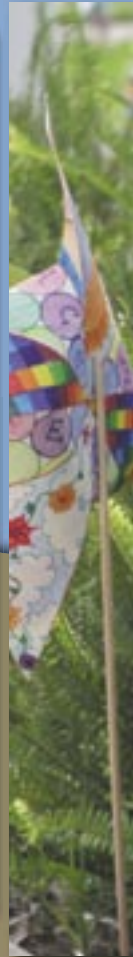
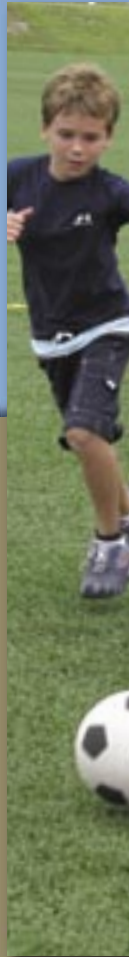




State of the City 2006





State of the City 2006

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A Message from Your City Commission and City Manager

Fiscal Year 2006 was quite a memorable year for the City of Coral Springs. After weathering Hurricane Wilma, the worst storm in our 43-year history, we immediately went to work on restoring normalcy so we could quickly refocus on the Business Plan and deliver on our promises to the community. Despite the hard realities of hurricane recovery, we accumulated an impressive list of recognitions, such as:

- Being the first City to be a candidate for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation's preeminent business award.
- Making *Money* magazine's "Best Places to Live" list as the best place to live in the State of Florida.
- Joining the nation's "100 Best Communities for Young People," an honor conferred by America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth.
- Ranked the safest city in Florida in the Morgan Quitno Awards' 13th Annual America's Safest Cities list.
- Being named a "best practice" in performance management by the American Quality & Productivity Center.

While we're proud of the awards and accolades we've received, we're even more proud of the results that helped us earn these distinctions. Some highlights are:

- 95 percent Customer Service Rating,
- 95 percent Overall Quality Rating,
- 17 percent reduction in the Crime Rate,
- 97 percent Fire Department satisfaction,
- 95 percent Parks & Recreation satisfaction,
- 92 percent Police Department satisfaction,
- Three AAA bond ratings on Wall Street, and
- 94 percent of our residents said that they believe our City government respects religious and ethnic diversity.

Fiscal Year 2006 saw the implementation of the County's first Affordable Housing ordinance, a major overhaul of our sign ordinance to improve the visibility and quality of commercial signs in the City, and emergency ordinances for roofing and canopy restoration to speed up hurricane recovery.

The quality of life we enjoy continued to expand in 2006, with several public art installations along Sample Road, the International Sculpture Symposium at the International Peace Garden, the Museum of Art's successful Dalí exhibition, and expanded support of the West Atlantic Branch Library. Finishing its most successful season ever, the Coral Springs Center for the Arts had record attendance for its family and cultural programming.

From a financial standpoint, the City remains on solid footing. We finished Fiscal Year 2006 with total revenues exceeding total expenditures. The cost to the City for disaster recovery from Hurricane Wilma was absorbed through the use of emergency reserves. Unlike many other cities in the area, Coral Springs did not cut back services, issue debt, or raise tax rates to cover these unanticipated costs.

Looking forward, Coral Springs continues to maintain the lowest operating millage rate of Broward cities with populations over 70,000. The total tax rate will decrease by \$0.0376 mills due to a decrease in the debt service millage, despite the issuance of \$13.5 million of voter-approved debt for public safety and emergency management improvements. We've been able to accomplish this by adhering to financial strategies that continue to produce long-term savings. We'd also like to thank you for showing confidence in us by giving us 83 percent voter approval of the General Obligation Bond referendum.



City Attorney Sam S. Goren, Commissioner Vincent M. Boccia, Vice Mayor Roy Gold, Mayor Scott J. Brook, Commissioner Claudette Bruck, Commissioner Ted Mena, and City Manager Michael S. Levinson.

After listening to our residents, we created a Fiscal Year 2007 Strategic Plan that included a new priority – Traffic, Mobility & Connectivity. As the City matures, issues surrounding traffic and transportation have become the most common concerns in the community. We also changed the priority “Unity in the Community” to “Strength in Diversity” to make our position on diversity more precise, meaningful, and actionable.

Lastly, we’d like to congratulate Ramblewood Elementary School for earning the Florida Governor’s Sterling Award for Organizational Performance Excellence, the first school in the county to receive this prestigious award. They join the ranks of other quality-minded organizations such as Motorola,

Boeing Aerospace, Honeywell Space Systems, and the City of Coral Springs. The City has made an effort to improve education in Coral Springs by mentoring schools in quality management, and we’re proud that one of our schools led the way in Broward County.

On behalf of all our dedicated employees and wonderful volunteers, we’d like to thank our residents for recognizing our efforts and rewarding us with high satisfaction ratings. As always, we will continue to work attentively to satisfy your needs and earn your confidence.

– The City of Coral Springs

Customer-Involved Government

Our goals are to:

- Encourage citizen volunteerism
- Encourage voter turnout
- Increase citizen communication
- Enhance and promote the City's identity consistent with the mission statement
- Partner with the School Board and others to develop and encourage mentoring opportunities for youth
- Align City services with customer needs and expectations

Bond Referendum Education Program and Get Out the Vote

One of the directional statements in the 2005-2006 Strategic Plan is to "encourage voter turnout." To that end, the Customer-Involved Government Committee and City staff developed programs to reward voting, such as a pizza party contest for elementary school students who collected the most "I Voted" stickers. We also increased the visibility of the election by mailing out informational brochures, creating voter awareness advertising, airing educational programming on CityTV, hanging "vote" banners at intersections, and providing volunteers at polling locations. This past election, our "Vote for Bonds" campaign was a huge success, with the bond passing by an overwhelming majority of 82.5 percent.

Affordable Housing

Coral Springs was the first city in Broward County to implement an affordable housing ordinance. Through this ordinance, the City will soon be able to expand its efforts to assist low to moderate-income families in Coral Springs to secure a home within the City. The funding for any housing programs will come from the contributions of residential developers; therefore this program will take several years to come to fruition.

Part-time Police Officers

To support the current force and reduce overtime expenditures, the Police Department conducted a pilot program to test the feasibility of hiring retired Coral Springs police officers to patrol the City on a part-time basis. This will be a great benefit to the City by having fully trained professionals on call when necessary, while keeping costs down and not over-extending full-time officers. Retired officers also benefit by remaining active and engaging in the community, while staying flexible in their time commitments.

Premier Customer Service

City staff has implemented a premier customer service program to assist local businesses in improving their service quality. Staff created a training DVD and a brochure including the premier service code. During the summer, secret shoppers visited participating businesses and those employees who provided great customer service were awarded prizes on the spot. Close to 30 local businesses participated.





The City of Coral Springs aims to develop innovative ways to make participation in local government activities possible for all residents and to foster a sense of engagement among the citizenry by effectively communicating a common identity, actively seeking insight into the needs of the community, aligning City services with customer expectations, and continuing to strive for excellence along our journey in becoming a high-performing municipal corporation.

Communications Improvements

Keeping residents informed is very important, and the Communications & Marketing Department has implemented new ways of reaching the community. CityTV programming is now available on podcasts and video-on-demand, so residents who don't have Advanced Cable can now watch City videos and listen to commission meetings. *Coral Springs* magazine has also been redesigned to better inform, engage and inspire our readers.



Performance Measures

Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006	2-Year Goal	2-Year Actual
Number of volunteer hours donated to the City	60,000	65,396
Percent voter turnout per election	15%	31.96%
Overall rating of the City in terms of communicating with residents (City Survey)	90%	90%
Number of mentors trained	150	161
Overall quality rating for City services and programs (City Survey)	92%	95%
Overall satisfaction rating of City employees (HR Survey)	92%	95%
Quality rating for City employees customer service (City Survey)	92%	96%





We must protect the high level of service quality and financial stability that the City has become known for by encouraging redevelopment, diversifying tax and revenue sources, ensuring the long-term viability of financial strategies and implementing "new urbanism" techniques.

Performance Measures

Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006	2-Year Goal	2-Year Actual
Maintain AAA Bond Ratings	AAA	AAA
Commercial square foot development initiated within the Downtown CRA	140,000 sq. ft.	210,000 sq. ft.
Percent of plan reviews completed within 15 days	95%	84%*
Non-residential value as percent of total taxable value	23%	21.6%**
Residents' value rating (City Survey)	70%	75%
Percentage increase of operating millage rate	0%	0%
Estimated rate of return for the City in economic development incentives	\$225	\$225 est.

*Second year results were impacted by the increase in plan reviews needed in the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma.

**The City has seen impressive growth in the non-residential tax base; however, growth in the residential tax base has overshadowed non-residential growth.

Financial Health & Economic Development

Downtown Coral Springs

The first phase of the Downtown redevelopment has been finalized. Located on the southeast corner of University Drive and Sample Road, near the City's own Charter School, One Charter Place will include 210,000 square feet of commercial office and retail space, as well as structured parking.

Utility Interconnect with Margate

We've joined with the City of Margate to co-fund the design and installation of a 12-inch water interconnect between the two utilities. Margate is a comparable size utility to Coral Springs and this interconnect will provide for the mutual transfer of water in times of emergency.

Opening of the Public Safety Training Center

The Public Safety Training Center is now open after three years of planning and construction. This site is the central training site for firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, police officers and other public safety professionals.



Our goals are to:

- Maintain financial stability and solvency
- Encourage redevelopment of downtown area into vibrant, pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use community center
- Coordinate with both large and small business groups to encourage business-friendly City policies that uphold community and public safety standards
- Expand tax base through appropriate development/redevelopment initiatives
- Encourage "new urbanism" techniques in City planning



Excellence in Education

Digital Divide

Our goals are to:

- Advocate with the School Board to address overcrowding in Coral Springs schools
- Forge partnerships which will bring more adult education opportunities to the City
- Work to foster increased parental participation in the schools
- Achieve academic goals in the Charter School
- Continue to support the ACE Academy at the Charter School and foster other initiatives which give high school students leadership and career opportunities, and which benefit local businesses by training employees of the future

The purpose of Digital Divide is to provide at-risk students with household access to information technology that they would otherwise not have access to, in an effort to develop the skills required in today's educational and work environments. The City is partnering with Coral Springs Charter School and Advanced Cable Communications to deploy this project. Advanced Cable Communications is the internet service provider, supplying cable modems and technical support to qualified participants. The City is providing hardware and software to participants. Meanwhile, the Charter School is administering the overall program in terms of curriculum development, student selection, training, tutoring and performance tracking.

University Partnership

Since 2003, we have been working to provide college-level classes in the City, leveraging City-owned resources. This year, Barry University conducted eight classes, and Broward Community College offered 26 classes at the Charter School and Economic Development Foundation Conference Room, accommodating 631 students. Course offerings included Business, Marketing, Professional Certifications, Public and Professional Administration, as well as SAT Preparation and Spanish. As the awareness and demand for these classes grow, the City is positioned to make life-long learning an integral part of our service offerings.

Teen Safe Driving Program

Because of our large population of teenagers, we experience a number of underage vehicle crashes and fatalities due to speeding, not using seat belts and impaired driving. The Police Department has implemented a Teen Safe Driving program to reduce risky behavior behind the wheel. This year, more than 750 citation letters and 119 warnings were mailed to parents regarding their teens driving behavior, along with informational brochures. In 2007, teens are asked to submit their driving records, showing that they have not received any citations and no "at-fault" crashes. At the end of the school year, teens with clean driving records will receive gift certificates to a local movie theater, video rentals, and a certificate of achievement.





The City seeks to maintain effective partnerships with the Broward County School Board and individual local public and private schools within Coral Springs to address overcrowding, promote safety, increase parental participation, elevate student achievement, and expand educational opportunities.

Charter School Art and Music Wing

Earlier this year, \$1.7 million of the proceeds from the sale of the land at the corner of the Charter School was combined with other school funding sources to finance the Art and Music Wing at the Charter School. The wing will consist of a band room, vocal room and 300-plus seat auditorium. Construction is expected to be completed by August 2007.

Performance Measures

Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006

	2-Year Goal	2-Year Actual
Percent of school overcrowding in public schools	125%	108%
Number of students participating in partnering institutes of higher education	250	1,217
Achieve 2% gains in math/reading mean scale score at the Charter School	2%	1%*

*Coral Springs Charter School was the only high school in the City to earn an "A" grade.



The City provides support to neighborhood groups and individual homeowners and business owners in maintaining and improving aesthetics, safety, accessibility and mobility throughout the City. The City aims to lead by example in the stewardship of natural resources by preserving existing Environmentally Sensitive Land sites, promoting the expansion of the City's tree canopy and native landscaping, and planning for the conservation of resources.

Performance Measures

Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006

	2-Year Goal	2-Year Actual
Number of formal and informal neighborhood partnerships	60	65
Number of cooperative projects and the number of different partners (public, private and intracity depts.) focused on enhancing the environment	12 projects 8 partners	31 projects 25 partners
City Crime Rate (crimes per 100,000 residents)	3,100	2,495
Percent of Code cases brought into voluntary compliance	65%	81%
Number of visitors participating in tours of 2 ESL sites (excluding Earth Fest)	200 per year	99 per year*
Achieve an overall reduction of 15% for the 85th percentile of speeds on traffic calmed roads	15%	15.2%
Number of accidents at 16 major intersections	155 per year	127 per year
Number of riders on intracity bus routes	210,000	222,030

*Second year results were impacted by Hurricane Wilma damage at ESL sites.



Neighborhood & Environmental Vitality

National Wildlife Certification

To qualify as a Community Wildlife Habitat, the National Wildlife Federation must certify a total of 300 homes, five schools and seven workplaces, churches, or other community locations within the City. This year, the City informed the public on how they can apply and the importance of providing wildlife habitats through the City's magazine, web site, and two programs on CityTV. As a result, 98 single-family homes, seven parks and two educational institutions became certified. This truly is a community effort and requires the help of many people to be successful.

Sign Code Changes

The City approved Phase II of the sign code ordinance, which includes review of real estate signs, permanent wall signs, number of signs allowed, multi-story signs in commercial locations and signage identifying incorporated name versus activity or use. Good communication between the Chamber of Commerce and other business owners led to a revised ordinance that is acceptable to the commercial property owners without jeopardizing the City's aesthetic standards.

Traffic Management

The Transportation Improvement Map shows the numerous efforts underway to ensure that acceptable levels of service are maintained in Coral Springs. Residents continue to express concerns regarding the traffic conditions on the roadway network. A Traffic Management Team has been established and continues to address local roadway operational issues and to coordinate with Broward County and the Florida Department of Transportation for planned future traffic improvements within the City. To support Phase I of the Downtown Coral Springs project, exclusive right-turn lanes on the Sample Road eastbound approach and the University Drive northbound approach will be constructed.

Public Art Program

Since its inception last year, the Public Art Program has really taken off. This year, the Public Art Committee has completed the selection process for the purchase of new public artworks for Sample Road, University Drive, the International Peace Garden and the Gymnasium. The community will be able to experience public art first hand and provide feedback to the committee.

Our goals are to:

- Support our aging neighborhoods through codes and code enforcement, and neighborhood partnerships that encourage healthy and vital neighborhoods, free of crime and decline
- Preserve and treasure our ESL sites while making them as accessible to citizens and students as good stewardship will allow
- Encourage the creation of new greenways throughout our City
- Promote more effective traffic management technology, which will reduce current and future traffic overload
- Encourage community walk-ability and bike-ability
- Partner with Broward County and the Metropolitan Planning Organization on public transportation opportunities and connectivity to regional systems
- Promote programs and regulations that protect and improve upon the aesthetics that distinguish our City, with special attention paid to our entranceways

Youth Development & Family Values

Slide & Glide Renovation

The original playground was built in 1997 with the help of 2,000 volunteers. Although the playground has sentimental value to many residents, it had succumbed to rot, vandalism and age. Children are now able to enjoy the new and improved high-tech maze at Betti Stradling Park. During the summer, Broward County Mayor Ben Graber allocated \$150,000 of his Commissioner's Discretionary Bond funds to the City for the playground's construction.

Artificial Turf

To improve the overall quality of our athletic fields, the City installed two new artificial turf fields at Cypress Park. This pilot program will study the feasibility of replacing sod fields throughout the City. Using artificial turf will reduce maintenance costs and time, reduce water use, avoid pesticide applications and not require continual restriping. The latest technology also reduced the potential for injury and problems with wet weather. These fields will allow residents to play all year round and will not need to close for maintenance and resodding.

Our goals are to:

- Promote youth involvement in leadership opportunities throughout the City
- Encourage inter-generational programming
- Increase youth leisure and recreational opportunities through partnerships
- Explore and encourage internship opportunities for youth
- Support the needs of families of all kinds
- Promote positive outlets for youth during after-school hours

Security in the Parks

A pilot program to equip city parks with parking lot security cameras linked to the Police Department communications center was successfully implemented to help reduce vehicle burglaries and identity theft.

Seniors vs. Crime

The Coral Springs Police Department has partnered with the Florida Attorney General to offer the first Seniors vs. Crime office in Broward County. The project's mission is to prevent crimes against the elderly, educate seniors about customer fraud, assist seniors through volunteer mediation services, and promote senior involvement with law enforcement.





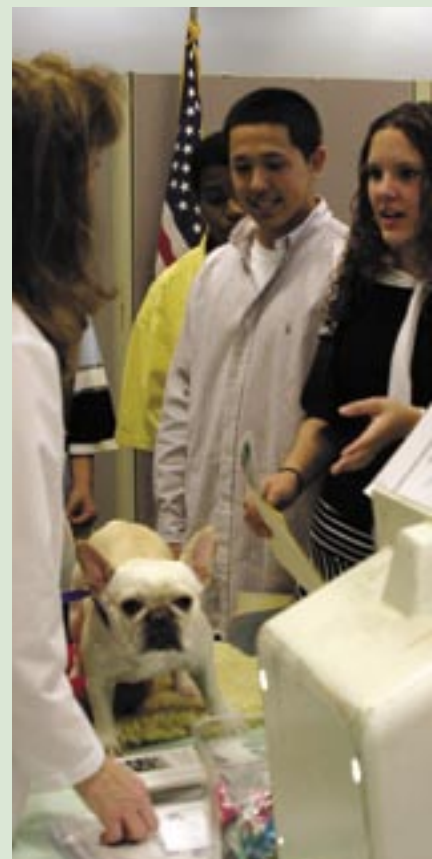
The City must promote and increase opportunities for youth to become engaged in the world, while providing support in addressing the profusion of issues facing them. The City aims to empower families to create strong ties, pass on values and traditions, strive for economic security, increase health and safety, and join in creating a shared community vision.

Project Lifesaver

Coral Springs Project Lifesaver is an innovative program that assists emergency personnel in their search for wandering or missing persons with Alzheimer's disease, autism and other medical conditions. Through the use of this new technology, search times may be reduced from hours or days to only minutes, which diminishes the possibility of tragic results such as injury or death.

Youth Job Fair

To help prepare teens for work and to connect area businesses with potential employees, the City conducted a Business Success Day in February providing job search training to teens. More than 200 students learned how to dress properly, how to prepare a resume and interview etiquette. This event is always followed by the Youth Job Fair, where youth who attended the Business Success Day had the opportunity to meet local employers interested in hiring teens.



Performance Measures

Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006

	2-Year Goal	2-Year Actual
Number of youths involved in City-sponsored leadership opportunities	2,000	3,827
Number of teen volunteer hours donated to the City	20,000	28,973
Number of middle school after-school programs offered	10 per year	12 per year



The City strives to honor the strength of diversity in our community through ongoing dialogue and gathering together to communicate, understand and celebrate our differences and similarities.

Performance Measures

Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006

	2-Year Goal	2-Year Actual
Minority residents who feel that the City is a great place to live (City Survey)	80%	86%
Citizen rating of City Government for respecting religious and ethnic diversity (City Survey)	90%	94%
Percent of minority applicants per recruitment	35%	49%

Unity in the Community

International Peace Garden

The one-acre site, immediately in front of the Coral Springs Center for the Arts, has a winding paved brick path designed to lead visitors through the lush native landscaping and features stone sculptures representing all the continents of the world.

In February 2006, the first sculptures were placed in the garden, with pieces from internationally-known artists, including Lothar Nickel of Germany, Armen Agob of Egypt, and Roy Patterson of the United States. Planned future projects will come from South America and Asia.

English for Speakers of Other Languages

As the City's population continues to become more diverse, we recognized there were many programs to help residents who do not speak English learn the language. However, those who would benefit most were not taking advantage of these programs. City staff compiled a directory of available English for Speakers of Other Languages classes and publicized it throughout the community. Most of the classes are conveniently available at community schools, the Northwest Regional Library and the City's Family Success Center.

Our goals are to:

- Support educational and celebratory programs which promote unity among all races and creeds in our community and which provide appropriate access to residents with disabilities
- Support houses of worship in their attempts to foster inter-faith communication and understanding

Family Success Center

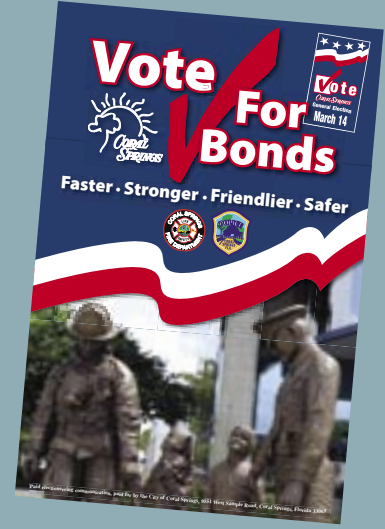
The Center is a one-stop source of social services information, referrals and services to assist individuals and families in setting goals, learning skills, and accessing the services they need to build a stronger, healthier and self-sufficient family. Hispanic Unity provides a variety of services for residents, including English instruction, job placement, emergency assistance, children's literacy and senior programs.



Other Accomplishments

Customer-Involved Government

- We met 27 of our 29 Key Intended Outcomes – the best results in the 13 years we've been measuring results.
- Customer service rating by our residents of 95 percent.
- Overall quality rating by our residents of 95 percent.
- Business survey overall satisfaction rate of 94 percent.
- CityTV programming can now be viewed via podcast or video-on-demand.
- Employee satisfaction of 95 percent.
- Overall rating of the City in terms of communicating with residents at 92 percent for Fiscal Year 2006.
- The Public Safety Bond Referendum passed by a resounding 83 percent vote.



Financial Health & Economic Development

- Our AAA bond rating was reaffirmed with all three major ratings agencies for our \$13.5 million General Obligation bonds.
- There were no comments in the Management Letter from our outside auditors for the ninth consecutive year.
- Despite the issuance of \$13.5 million of debt for public safety and emergency improvements, the operating property tax rate has not been raised for the 14th consecutive year.
- The Water & Sewer System Master Plan shows \$90 million in improvements during the next 10 years.
- Negotiated telephone agreements for local, long distance and wireless calling that saved the City \$250,000 annually in communications costs.

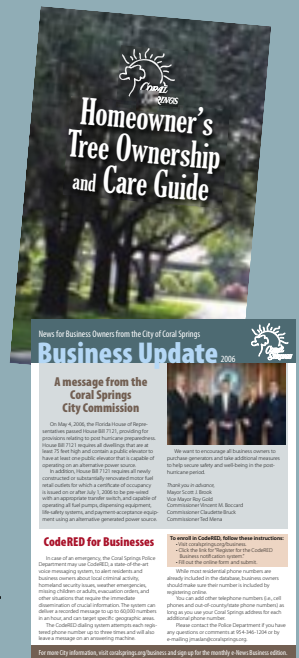
Excellence in Education

- The Coral Springs Charter School achieved another "A" rating for the third consecutive year.
- More than 1,000 letters for citations and 221 letters for warning were mailed to parents, along with informational brochures on Teen Safe Driving.
- Ramblewood Elementary School won the Florida Governor's Sterling Award for Organizational Performance Excellence, the first school in Broward County to receive this distinction.
- The Charter School is implementing the following initiatives: personalized mentoring for students, software to assist teachers in planning instruction on an individual basis, and mentoring for new teachers.



Neighborhood & Environmental Vitality

- The City's crime rate declined 17 percent, while most of the County's was on the rise.
- Phase II of the sign ordinance amendments is complete, including real estate signs, multi-story signs in commercial locations and permanent wall-signs.
- In the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma, the City developed and implemented the tree subsidy program, along with a comprehensive *Homeowners Tree Care and Ownership Guide*, which was mailed to all single-family households.
- Because traffic is a major concern among residents, road improvement projects were completed, including 10 miles of road resurfacing and improvements to two alleys. The County recently completed improvements at the intersection of University Drive and Royal Palm Boulevard.
- The City has improved its communication with businesses by devoting a section to business in its new magazine, *Coral Springs*. An annual newsletter is also sent in the Occupational License mailer to keep businesses informed.



Youth Development & Family Values



- Money magazine named Coral Springs one of the Best Places to Live, ranking 27th in the nation and first in Florida.
- The quality rating for the Parks Department was 95 percent.
- The Fire Department received two grants in Fiscal 2006, one to fund a Drowning Prevention Program in partnership with the Coral Springs Medical Center and the American Red Cross, and the other to fund new portable radios for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

- Two artificial turf soccer fields opened at Cypress Park and community response has been excellent.
- Other improvements at Cypress Park include new lighting at North Field, reducing electric usage by one third.
- At Betti Stradling Park, the Slide & Glide playground has undergone a major refurbishment with a new play system, rubberized flooring, recycled plastic fence and shade covers.

Unity in the Community

- Ninety-four percent of residents support City programs that foster respect for religious and ethnic diversity.
- The 2006 Martin Luther King Celebration, featuring William H. Gray, attracted 4,500 people.
- UniTown, UniTeens and UniKids programs helped promote awareness and appreciation of our differences and similarities.
- Eleven multi-cultural events were presented throughout the past year, attracting more than 3,000 people.

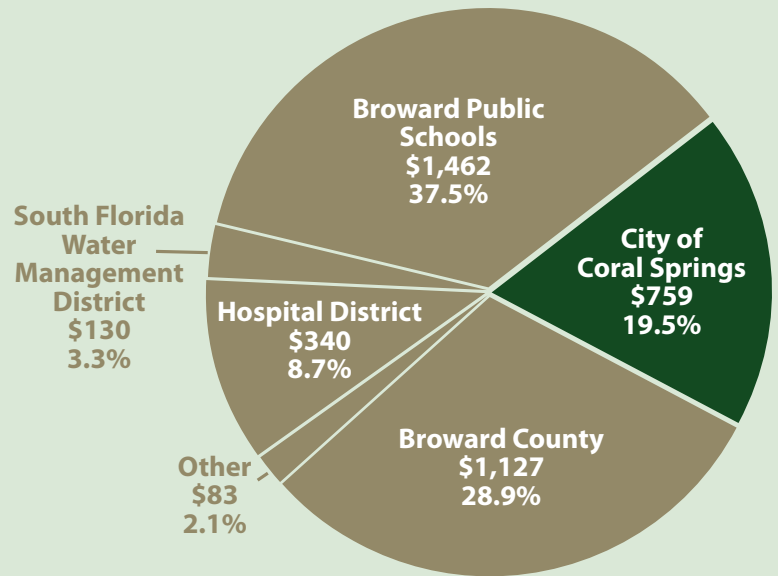


Your Taxes at Work

How much of your tax money goes to the City?

The City's share of the average tax bill is 19.5 percent.

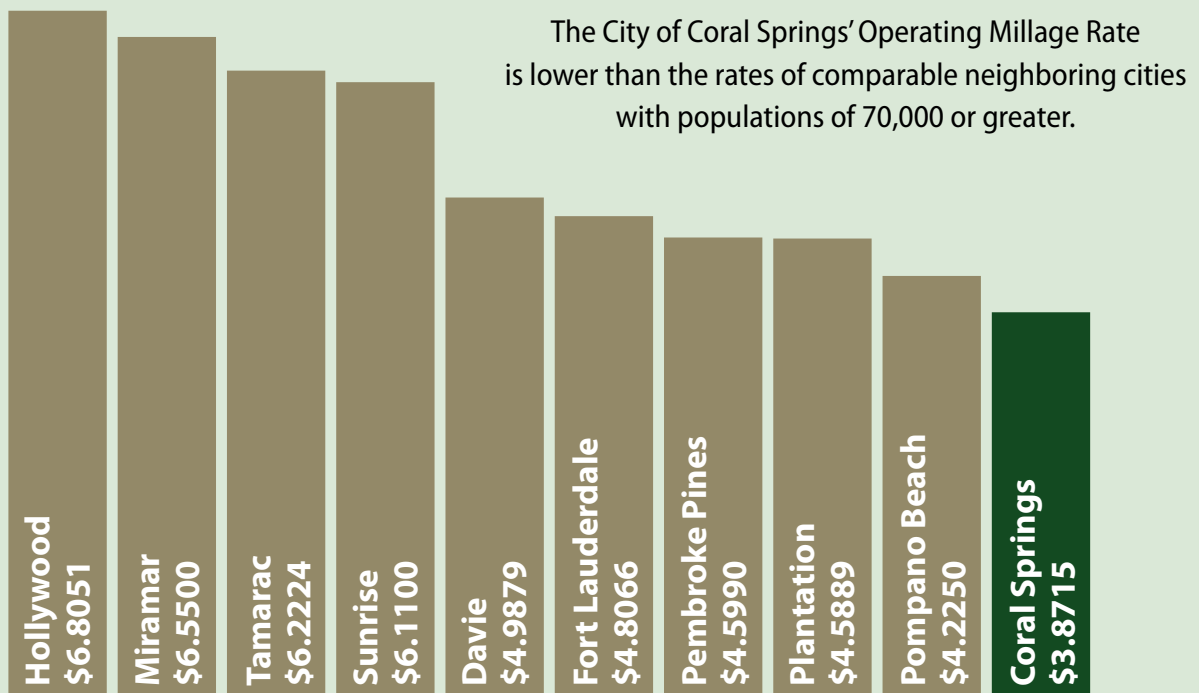
An average Coral Springs single-family home, with an assessed value of \$210,855 and eligible for homestead exemption, would pay \$3,902 for their total operating and debt service taxes, not including special assessments from water, fire, solid waste, or other special districts.



The majority of your ad valorem tax bill — \$3,143, or 80.5 percent of your total tax bill, in the example given above — goes to other service providers, such as Broward County, Broward Public Schools, North Broward Hospital District, the Children's Services Council, the South Florida Water Management District, and the Florida Inland Navigation District.

The City provides most of the government services that are closest to home for less than 20 percent of the ad valorem tax bill, such as police, fire, emergency medical services, parks, cultural facilities, street maintenance, and neighborhood preservation.

How do taxes in Coral Springs compare to other cities?



Hurricane Wilma Financial Challenges

How has the City recovered from Hurricane Wilma?

Because of the City's tradition of thoughtful long-term financial planning and frugal public spending, we were able to recover from Hurricane Wilma quickly and effectively—without having to borrow money or cut services. This is quite an accomplishment, but it came at a cost: our \$14 million financial policy reserves were whittled down to \$5 million.

Now that we've completed recovery activities from Hurricane Wilma, the next challenge is to build back our emergency reserves, which will take three to five years, and to do this without raising our tax rate.



Within our current tax rate, we will accomplish the following in Fiscal Year 2007:

- Fund the \$13.5 million in new improvements to our Public Safety station recently approved by our citizens without an increase in our Debt Service millage rate. In fact, by continuing to manage our debt prudently, we were able to reduce the debt service millage rate by 15 percent.
- Replenish \$2 million of our hurricane-ravaged reserves.
- Fund \$6.9 million in capital outlay with cash, saving the City \$2.7 million in future interest cost.
- Subsidize the fire assessment fee by \$7.66 per single family home.

One reason we can keep the tax rate low is the attention we pay to debt management. Just as it's important for homeowners to control their personal debts, it's important for the City to manage debt efficiently. We do this through refunding or retiring our most expensive debt and using cash to fund new capital projects to avoid new debt payments.

These measures have resulted in expenditure savings of \$8.9 million a year. If we had not been managing our debt so closely, our tax rate would be \$4.8715, a full \$1.0000 mill over the current \$3.8715. For the average homeowner, that would have translated into an additional \$185.86 in property taxes for Fiscal Year 2007.

Getting Involved

The City of Coral Springs welcomes and encourages involvement by its citizens. In fact, the City relies on input from our residents to develop business plan initiatives for this coming year and to continually improve the services we provide. Citizens have a number of opportunities to become involved in their City government. They include the larger, ongoing time commitment of serving on a Board or Advisory Committee, to those who choose to volunteer their time for other City events and causes.

Our volunteers are the heart of this community, and through their caring efforts, have provided 33,685 hours of service for the betterment of our City, in addition to those provided by Board and Advisory Committee members. This saves significant taxpayer dollars.



Residents can also get involved by attending their Slice of the Springs Neighborhood Meetings. These meetings give residents an opportunity to share their ideas and concerns with City staff and work together to create real and lasting changes in their own neighborhoods. Public comments are also welcome at 7:30 p.m. at our City Commission meetings, held on the first and third Tuesday of every month. These meetings are broadcast live on CityTV Channel 25 and are also available via podcast and streamed live over the internet at www.coral Springs.org.

Special appreciation goes to all our dedicated volunteers, and members of our Boards and Committees:

Board of Adjustment
Economic Development
Foundation, Inc.
Firefighter's Pension Board
National Day of Prayer Committee

Police Officer's Pension Board
Senior Advisory Committee
Special Events Committee
Sports Coalition
Student Advisory Council
Unsafe Structures Board



Architectural Review Committee



Charter School Advisory Committee



Community Redevelopment Agency



Construction Review Committee



Coral Springs Community Chest



Coral Springs International Partnerships, Inc.



Customer-Involved Government Committee



Financial Advisory Committee



General Employee's Pension Board



Historical Advisory Committee



Holiday Parade Committee



Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee



Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee



Neighborhood & Environmental Committee



Planning and Zoning Board



Public Art Committee



Sports Commission



Parent Education Advisory Committee



Principal Advisory Committee



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