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## WICKIUP WATER DISTRICT

92648 SVENSEN MARKET ROAD • ASTORIA, OREGON 97103  
503/458-6555

### Budget Highlights

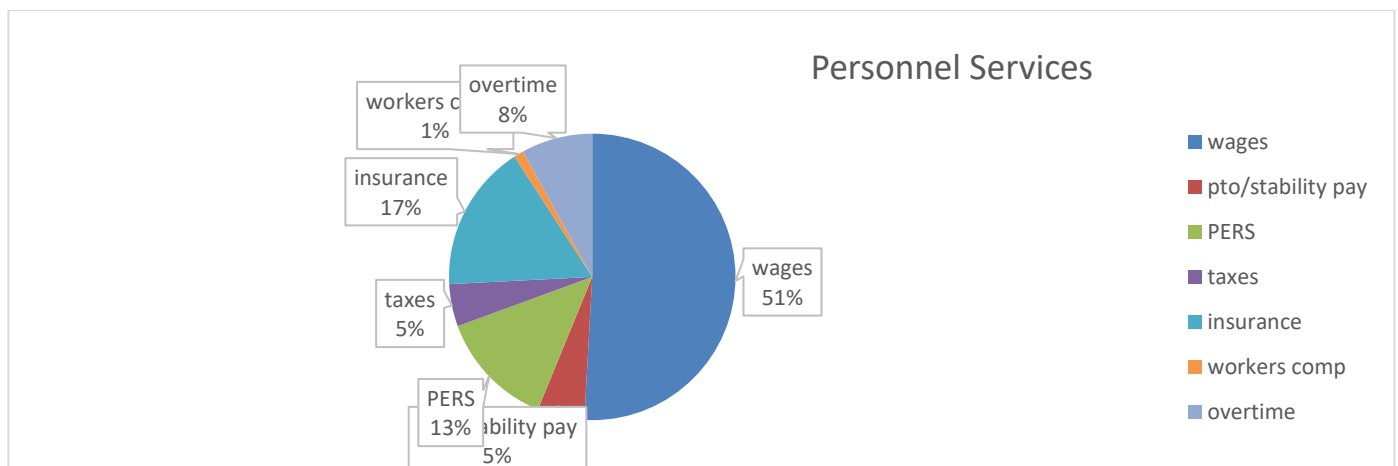
Operating expenditures are budgeted by division (administrative or maintenance) in the General Fund. Personnel services and repairs & maintenance make up the majority of the budgeted expenditures. Capital outlay, debt service transfers, and contingencies and reserves make up the remaining budget.

#### Personnel Services

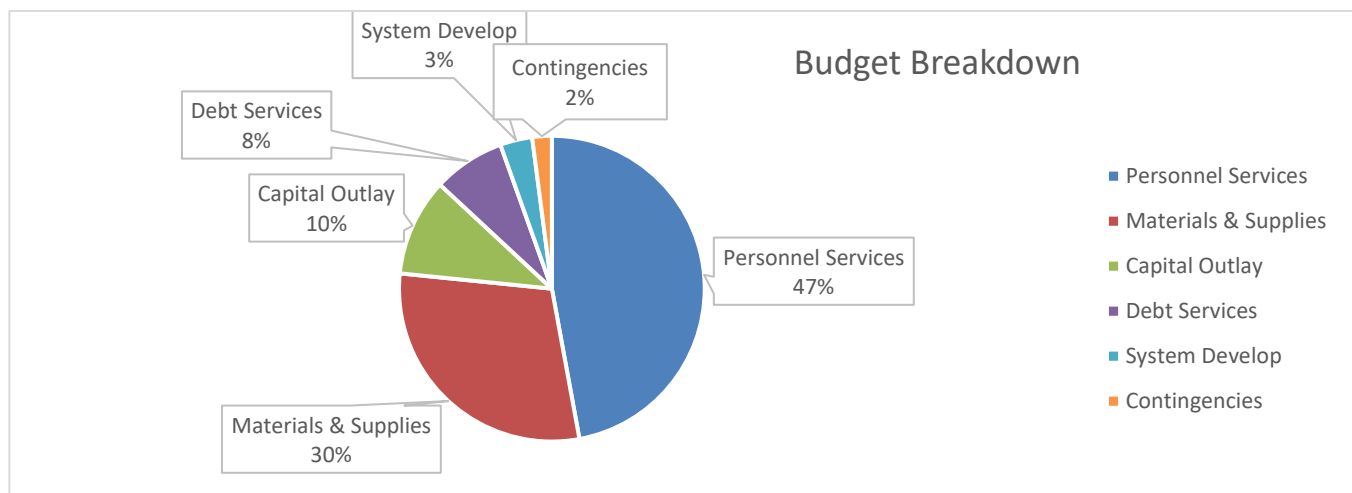
Personnel services represent a substantial portion of Wickiup Water District's operating budget because water utility operations require continuous, specialized, and highly reliable staffing. Although the District currently employs only two full-time employees, the accompanying graph reflects projected personnel services for three full-time positions to support long-term operational stability.

Each employee receives a comprehensive benefits package that includes wages, overtime, stability pay, payroll taxes, workers' compensation insurance, paid time off, and the employer contribution to PERS (currently 24.45%). These benefits are essential for retaining qualified certified operators and administrative staff. Employees do not receive on-call pay despite being available on weekends and responding to emergencies at all hours.

The District operates with a very limited workforce, two employees carry responsibility for all operational, regulatory, administrative, and emergency response functions. This includes ensuring continuous system readiness, maintaining regulatory compliance, protecting public health, and guaranteeing that safe drinking water is reliably delivered whenever a customer turns on the tap. Certified water operators are highly specialized professionals whose work directly affects system reliability and environmental compliance.



While personnel costs may appear high relative to the District's size, they reflect the increasing regulatory requirements, the need to retain certified operators, and the impacts of inflation on labor-related expenses.



### Materials and Services

This category includes expenditures for the goods and services required to support daily operations of the Wickiup Water District. These costs encompass legal and audit services, contractual services, utilities, system maintenance, and operational supplies. Materials and services ensure the District can meet regulatory obligations, maintain infrastructure, and provide reliable customer service.

### Capital Expenditures

Capital reserves are a key component of the District's long-term strategy for funding infrastructure needs, alongside rate revenues and debt financing. Capital funds are used to plan for and complete major system improvements, equipment replacements, and other long-term investments. New meter purchases contribute to the capital fund and are supplemented by interest earnings.

The increase in the FY 2026–27 capital budget is primarily due to expanded maintenance efforts and the need to address aging infrastructure, ensure system reliability, and supports regulatory compliance.