

Property Taxes and City Services

This chart explains how your property taxes are distributed. Although the City of Santa Maria receives \$346 on average from all assessed parcels in the City, it spends an average of \$2,438 per parcel of all types on the following general public programs and services. The funds are generally distributed as follows:

City Services Provided	City Average	% of Total	Average contribution
Police Services	\$968	39.71%	\$137
Fire Services	\$366	15.02%	\$52
Recreation & Parks	\$364	14.95%	\$52
Administrative Services	\$344	14.11%	\$49
General Government	\$151	6.18%	\$21
Community Development	\$131	5.38%	\$19
Public Works	\$113	4.63%	\$16
Total per parcel *	\$2,438	100%	\$346

* Based on rounding calculations

The second column is an illustration of the average City cost of service per parcel.

The fourth column shows that property taxes for most parcels are not enough to support the taxes received (between columns two and four). To make up the difference, the City relies significantly on other revenue sources.

Other City services are funded primarily by user fees (i.e., water and sewer service charges, trash charges) and grants, and are not reflected in the above services as they are accounted for separately.