

Summary of Financial Goals and Objectives

In 2004, at the City Council retreat, the City Council adopted a Vision Statement focusing upon six Vision components. In support of the Vision, the proposed budget is introduced focusing upon increased funding for education, progress on financial strategies, improving the City's economic prosperity, transforming neighborhoods and communities, investing in our employees, leveraging technology to improve services, improving public safety capabilities, and strategically marketing Portsmouth. These eight areas serve as strategic tributaries to strengthen the City's infrastructural needs and the citizenry's quality of life. They also serve as the framework for developing the annual operating and capital improvement budgets. Utilizing the City's overall broad goals and specifically the City Council's financial objectives, the budget-spending plan has been evaluated. We propose this budget with the City Council's Vision as the impetus for change. The six Vision components are:

1. *Bold New Directions*
2. *Lifelong Learning Community*
3. *Neighborhood and Community Transformation*
4. *Robust and Prospering Economy*
5. *World Class Maritime Center*
6. *Pride of Past, Promise of Future*

Throughout the FY 2005-06 operating budget development stages, the Vision components have been considered.

By juxtaposing Citizen Council's Vision, the Planning Commission's Citizen 2025 Comprehensive Plan, and the City's budget proposal, citizens will discern a profound plan to transform the Pride of the Past into the Promise of the Future.