



## About the Anderson Park District's Financials ~ 5/15/2025

### **Budget Process:**

The Anderson Park District's ("APD") approved budget is online at [AndersonParks.com](http://AndersonParks.com). The budget is approved by the Board of Park Commissioners. The budgeting process typically begins in October with a final year-end budget approval in December and a beginning year approval in January, once the actual carry-over is determined and the books are closed from the previous year.

The Board additionally files a July tax budget with the Hamilton County Auditor.

The APD's budget represents all purchases made throughout the year. All purchases over \$5,000.00 represented in the budget are additionally and specifically approved by the Board of Park Commissioners in the form of a purchase order at its monthly public meetings. Any unexpected expenditures throughout the year are approved by the Board of Park Commissioners via a specific "Re-Appropriation of the Budget" at a public meeting.

The Board of Park Commissioners review and approve the financials at each monthly public meeting.

### **Audits:**

The APD is audited by the State of Ohio every two years. While the APD qualifies for a partial audit, the APD requests full audits. The audit reports for the past several years are on [AndersonParks.com](http://AndersonParks.com).

### **Governmental Accounting and Financial Award:**

Based on the APD's recent audit years, the APD has twice received an Award for Small Government Cash Basis Reports in 2017, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015, and in 2018, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. The Award for Small Government Cash Basis Reports Program is a professional recognition program for small governments that prepare their financial reports on a modified cash basis. This Award is the highest form of recognition for modified cash basis reports in governmental accounting and financial reporting. Its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The Park District is audited bi-annually and is eligible for this award only in the most recently audited year. *While this award was discontinued after 2018, the APD continues to operate according to the same best practices that resulted in the award.*

In 2019, the Ohio Auditor of State started the Sunshine Law Star Rating System (StaRS). The StaRS measures compliance with Sunshine Laws and encourages public entities to be more open and transparent with the public. The Anderson Township Park District has been recognized for receiving the Outstanding Achievement Open and Transparent Government Award from the Ohio Auditor of State for the following Audit Periods:

2018/19

2020/21

2022/23

**Transparency in Government Accounting:**

The Anderson Park District has been participating in OhioCheckbook.gov since October of 2015. OhioCheckbook.gov is a state online checkbook program developed by then Ohio State Treasurer, Josh Mandel. The free initiative promotes transparency in government. The Anderson Park District was the 2<sup>nd</sup> special district to participate in the program which as of October 2021 includes over 880 public entities throughout the State of Ohio. Communities are able to go online and see where the money is going for the participating entities.

All financial statements and cash journals dating from 2018 through the present are accessible to view on BoardDocs.com. Financial statements prior to 2018 are available by contacting the park office: (513) 474-0003 or emailing APDOffice@AndersonParks.com.

**Contact the Anderson Park District:**

For additional questions about the Anderson Park District's accounting practices, contact Brian Jordan, Financial Officer, 513.388.5093.