

October 2013

## Boston Ends Fiscal 2013 with a Surplus for 20<sup>th</sup> Year

*Revenues totaled \$28M over budget, spending exceeded appropriations by \$19.8M*

The City of Boston ended FY13 with an \$8.2M General Fund operating surplus, which is less than the FY12 surplus of \$12M. The surplus is due to the fact that actual receipts exceeded estimated revenues by \$28M or 1.1%, which was greater than the \$19.8M that actual spending exceeded final appropriations. The General Fund surplus represents 0.32% of city spending of \$2.5B.

### FY13 General Fund Summary

Figures in Millions

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Revenues	\$2,476.3	\$2,504.3	\$28.0
Expenditures	\$2,476.3	\$2,496.1	(\$19.8)
Surplus		\$8.2	\$8.2

### Expenditure

Based on total FY13 spending of \$2.496B, the \$19.8M over appropriations is due to over spending in the Police (-\$11.8M) and Fire (-\$3.6M) Departments because of overtime costs. Also, the City spent \$8.5M more than budgeted for court judgments.

### Select Spending Accounts

Figures in millions

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Judgments & Claims	\$3.5	\$12.0	(\$8.5)
Police	\$278.9	\$290.7	(\$11.8)
Fire	\$185.5	\$189.1	(\$3.6)
Snow Removal	\$17.8	\$19.1	(\$1.3)

The City spent \$19.1M for snow removal in fiscal 2013, which was more in line with

normal costs and significantly above the \$5.4M spent in FY12.

### Revenue

The City's conservative revenue estimates once again produced a revenue surplus at year end. Actual receipts of \$2.504B in FY13 were \$28M over budget estimates. The excise surplus of \$16.4M included room occupancy (\$8.1M), aircraft fuel (\$5.1M), and meals (\$2.6M). Building permits generated \$6.3M over what was budgeted. The City's two largest revenue sources were much closer to their budget estimates.

### Select Revenue Accounts

Figures in millions

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Property Tax	\$1,642.6	\$1643.4	\$0.7
State Aid	\$404.1	\$403.3	(\$0.8)
Excise Receipts	\$146.1	\$162.4	\$16.3
Building Permits	\$23.0	\$29.3	\$6.3
Dept. Revenue	\$59.8	\$68.5	\$8.7
PILOTs	\$22.1	\$24.2	\$2.1

For the third year in a row, the revenue surpluses have allowed the City to forego using budgeted revenues. In FY13, unused revenue totaled \$55M, which included the full budget of free cash (\$40M) and parking meter receipts (\$15M). The \$8.2M surplus in fiscal 2013 will be added to the year-end fund balance and will be included in next fiscal year's free cash certification.