

# Refuse Collection Fund

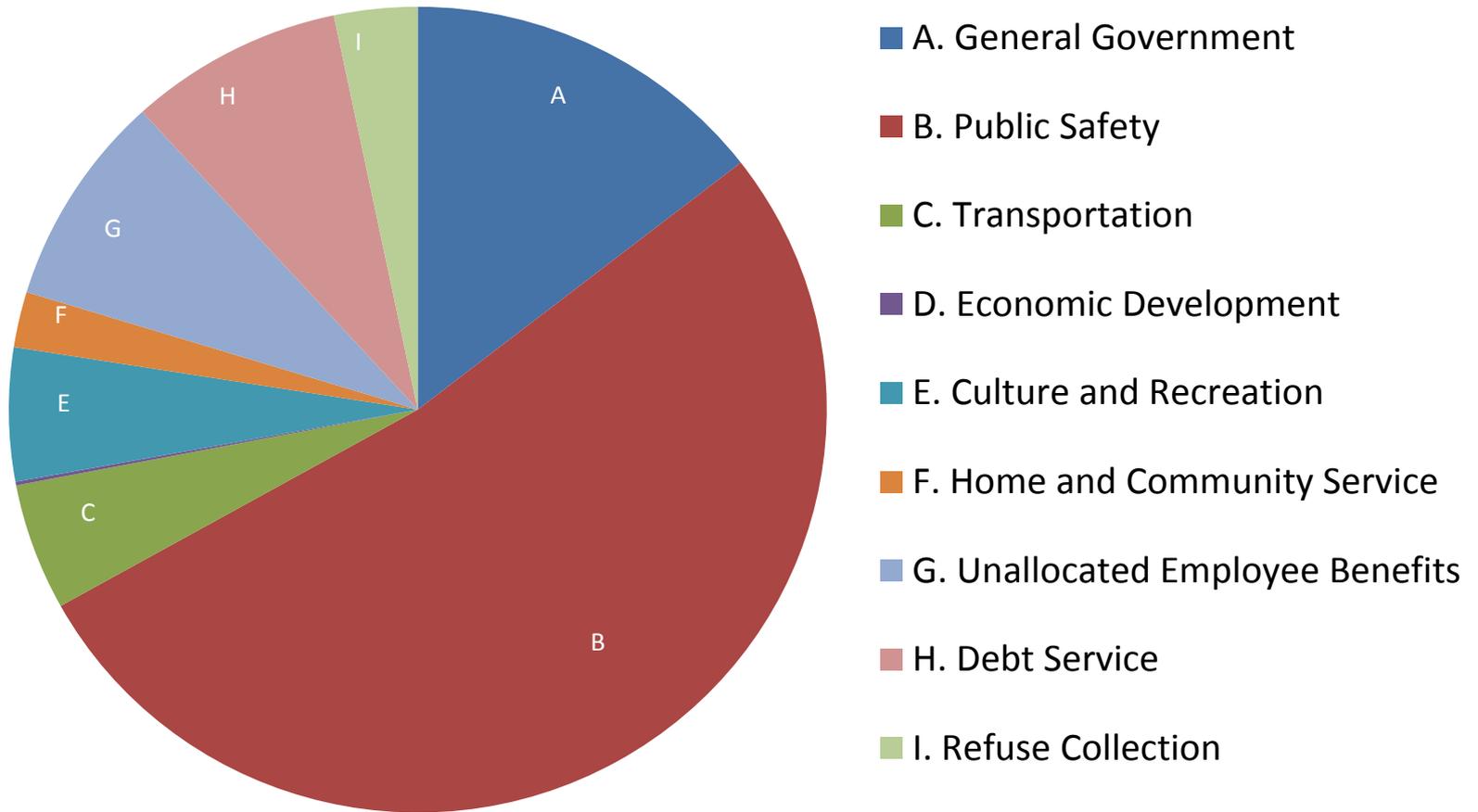
City of Auburn

May 1, 2014

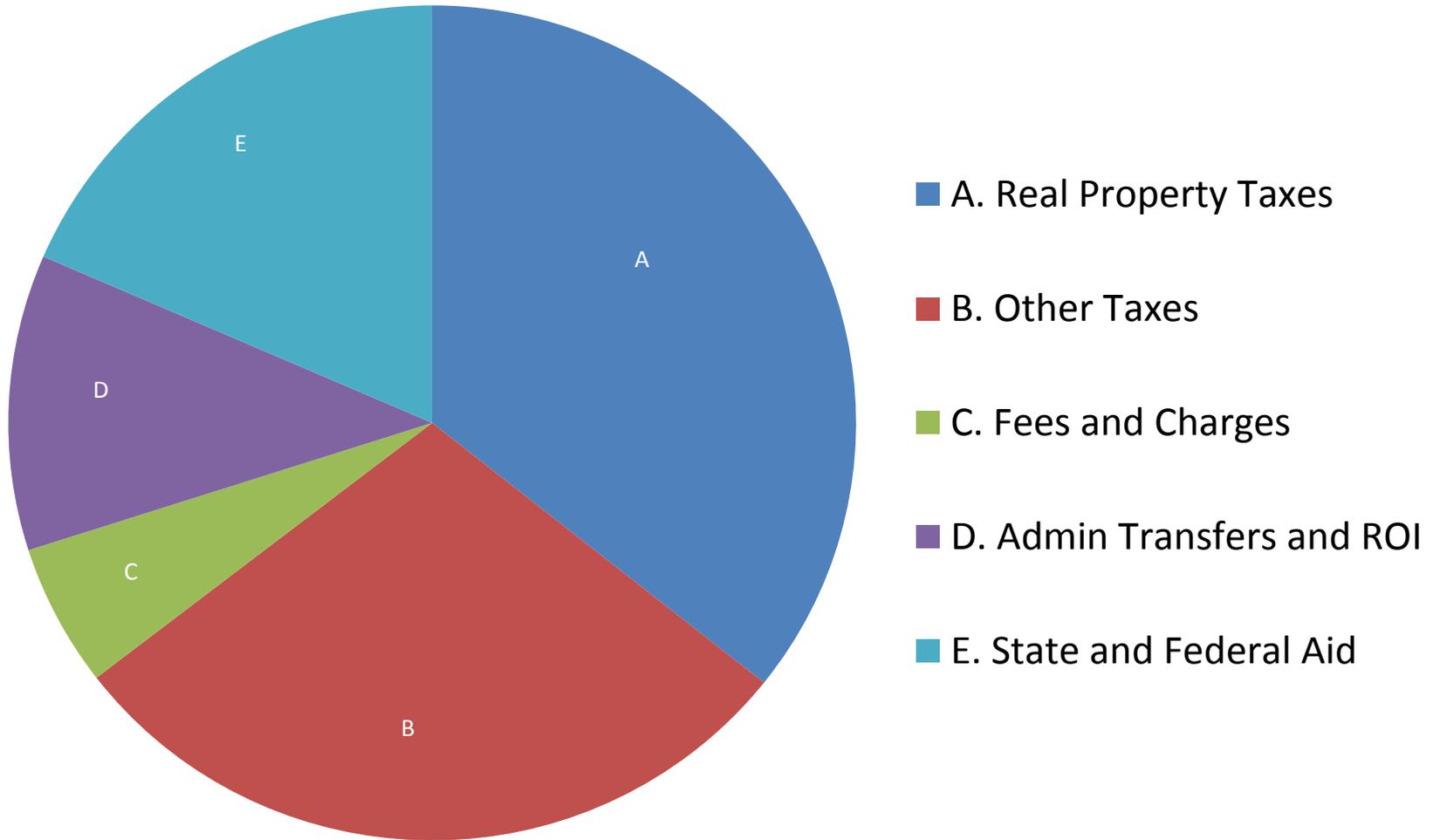
# Current System

- Current trash collection and disposal funding based on taxes creates inequities
- Single family households subsidize trash collection for multifamily properties
- True cost of service (\$1.1 million) is hidden from consumers
- This is paid for out of general fund revenues of which 36% is property taxes and the remainder is supported by sales tax, state aid, etc.

# General Fund Budget Allocation Including Trash Collection



# General Fund Revenue Allocation Excluding Trash Collection



# Two Unit Parcel



# Three Unit Parcel



# Two Unit Parcel



# One Unit Parcel



# One Unit Parcel



# Advantages

- Each living unit will pay for the service they are receiving
- Refuse collection will support itself independently from taxes as it is no longer sustainable in the general fund
- General fund will receive support for administrative costs associated with providing the service

# Advantages

- Costs to citizens will be minimal
- No fee increases with tax levy increases
- Parcels which are tax exempt (i.e. PILOTs and not-for-profits) but receive service will support the program

# Area Survey

- Oswego and Geneva do not provide trash collection for their residents
- Cortland, Binghamton, Ithaca are pay as you throw (per bag ranging from \$3-\$4.50/bag)
- At \$3 per bag x 2 bags per can x 5 cans trash collection would cost \$30 per week or \$1,560 per year

# Area Survey

- Syracuse is taken from taxes
- Rochester, Elmira, Jamestown, Rome are all parcel fee based
- Elmira is the cheapest out of the three at \$180 per year
- Watertown is a combination of fee based and per bag (resident's choice)

# Surrounding Towns

- The four towns directly touching (Owasco, Sennett, Aurelius, Fleming) our border to do not offer trash collection services
- Residents can use a private hauler at the cost detailed on the following slide
- Yard waste and call backs are not included in the private hauler service

# Surrounding Towns

- WeCare \$27 per month (\$324 per year)
  - Trash pick up weekly, recyclable pick up every other week, provided with a toter
- Casella \$31 per month (\$371 per year)
  - 96 gallon toter, trash pick up weekly, recyclable pick up every other week
- Dependable is based on family size and collects both trash and recyclables weekly
  - 2 people, 55 gallon toter, \$56 per quarter (\$224 per year)
  - 4 people, 96 gallon toter, \$61 per quarter (\$244 per year)

# City of Auburn - Proposal

- \$34.80/quarter for up to 5, 32 gallon cans (~2 bags per can)
- Continue 5 can limit (160 gallons)
- Fee based system will position city for future options

# City of Auburn - Proposal

- Fees will be included in the tax bills
- The tax bill will note a sanitation charge of \$139.20/year (\$11.60/month, \$2.68/week, 54¢ per can, 27¢ per bag)
- Includes at least two visits per week

# City of Auburn - Proposal

- Includes weekly yard waste collection (903 tons in 2013, 16 tons of Christmas trees)
- Includes collection skips, call backs and garbage put out late (684 incidents over 12 months)
- Includes special event collection

# Fee based vs Tax based trash collection affect on General Fund

- Private hauler option – No city service
  - Reduced allowable tax levy revenue to city of \$398,000 credited to property taxes
  - Benefit of \$3.72/month for a \$100,000 home (\$44.63 per year)
  - Net benefit to city general fund of approximately \$94,000/month or \$1,126,000 per year
  - Tax payers will be able to hire a private hauler

# Fee based vs Tax based trash collection affect on General Fund

- City service option
  - Reduced allowable tax levy revenue to city of \$398,000 credited to property taxes
  - Increased revenue to city of \$898,000 because of new fees collected from multifamily properties.
  - City continues to pay for equipment and manpower at a cost of \$94,000/mo.
  - Yard waste pickup and call backs are retained at no additional cost