5 STEPS PROCESS OVERVIEW
PRIORITY-BASED BUDGETING

Determine & Clarify Vision/Results

01

These results are based on best practices and align with other initiatives (for example, a strategic plan) that have defined an organization's goals. Two sets of results were created to distinguish between community-oriented and government-oriented results. These "Result" areas are further supported by definitions. At a high level, "Results" are the fundamental reason that an organization exists, and what an organization is in the business to provide.

Identify Programs & Services

02

Each department then sets out to develop a comprehensive list of programs and services offered by that department (what exactly we do). These "Program Inventories" build a common understanding of what the organization is offering to the community and in support of internal operations and procedures. The inventories include description of the program including services provided, and identify the program as either community or government-centered.

Allocate Costs/Resources to Programs

03

After program identification, departments then provide comprehensive and detailed cost information for each individual program. Through this process, departments estimated the level of staff time and other department budget expenditures/costs dedicated to each program, as well as identifying any revenues generated from these services. These were each labeled as personnel or non-personnel costs.

Score Programs Based on Results

04

In this step, departments then evaluate each program on how the prgoram contributes to achieving each results. Departments also score other attributes of each program, such as level of mandate , the amount of cost recovery, change in demand, and the portion of community served by the program. Once departments score their programs based on the Results, multi-departmental teams conduct follow-up review and validation.

Resource Alignment Diagnostic Tool

05

In the final step, program costs and scores are combined into a comprehensive Resource Alignment Diagnostic Tool. This tool allows for multiple methods of sorting information, gives a visual representation of how the organization allocates money to each program, and how those programs rank relative to each other in order of highest to lowest priority.