



Collaboration with Anchor Institutions and the County

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

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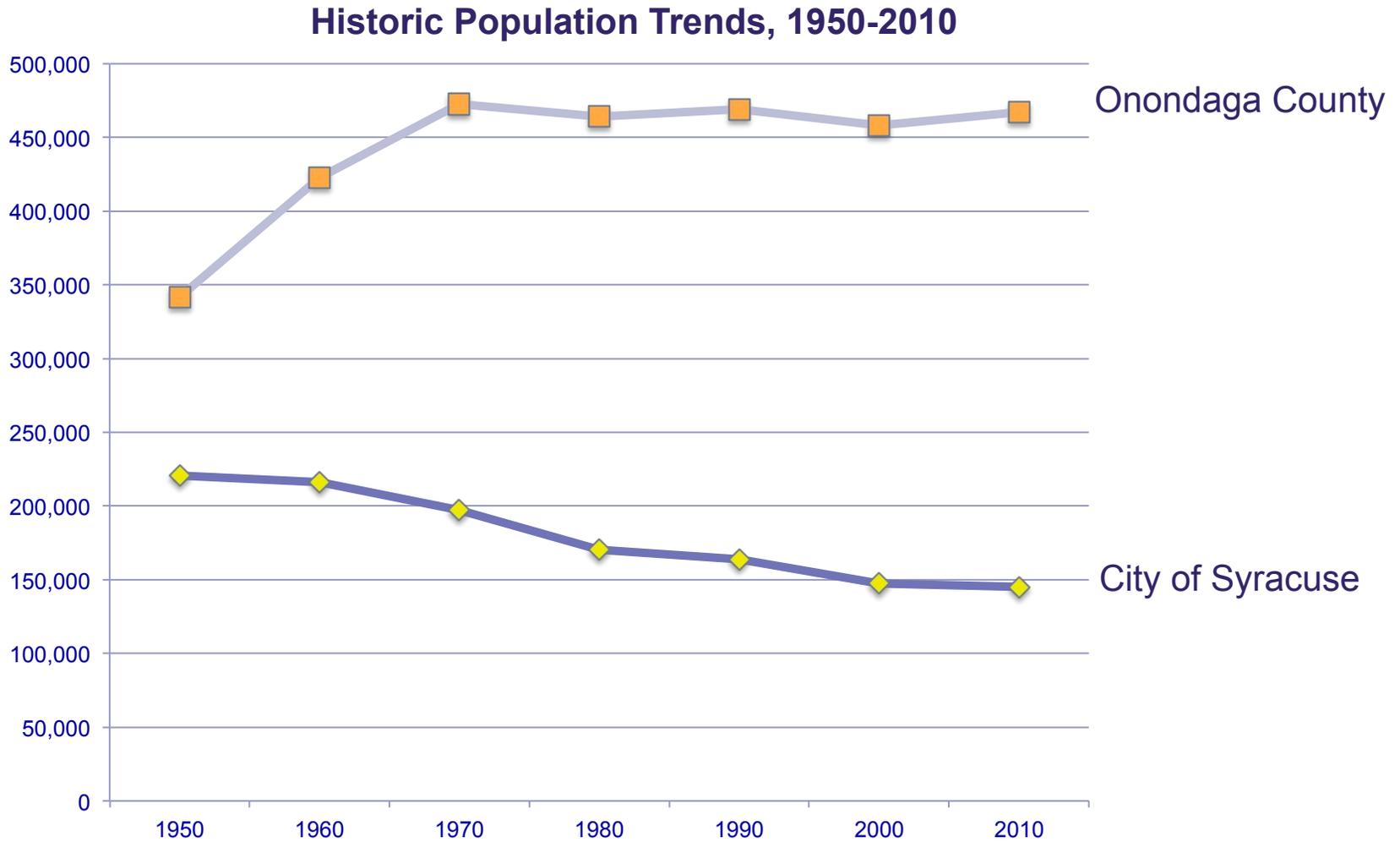
Source: City Data



Syracuse: Weathering Financial Challenges through Strategic Partnerships



Since its peak in 1970, Onondaga County has only seen a population decline of approximately 3%. In contrast, **Syracuse declined over 33%** from its peak in 1950.



Source: Office of the New York State Comptroller and the U.S. Census Bureau.

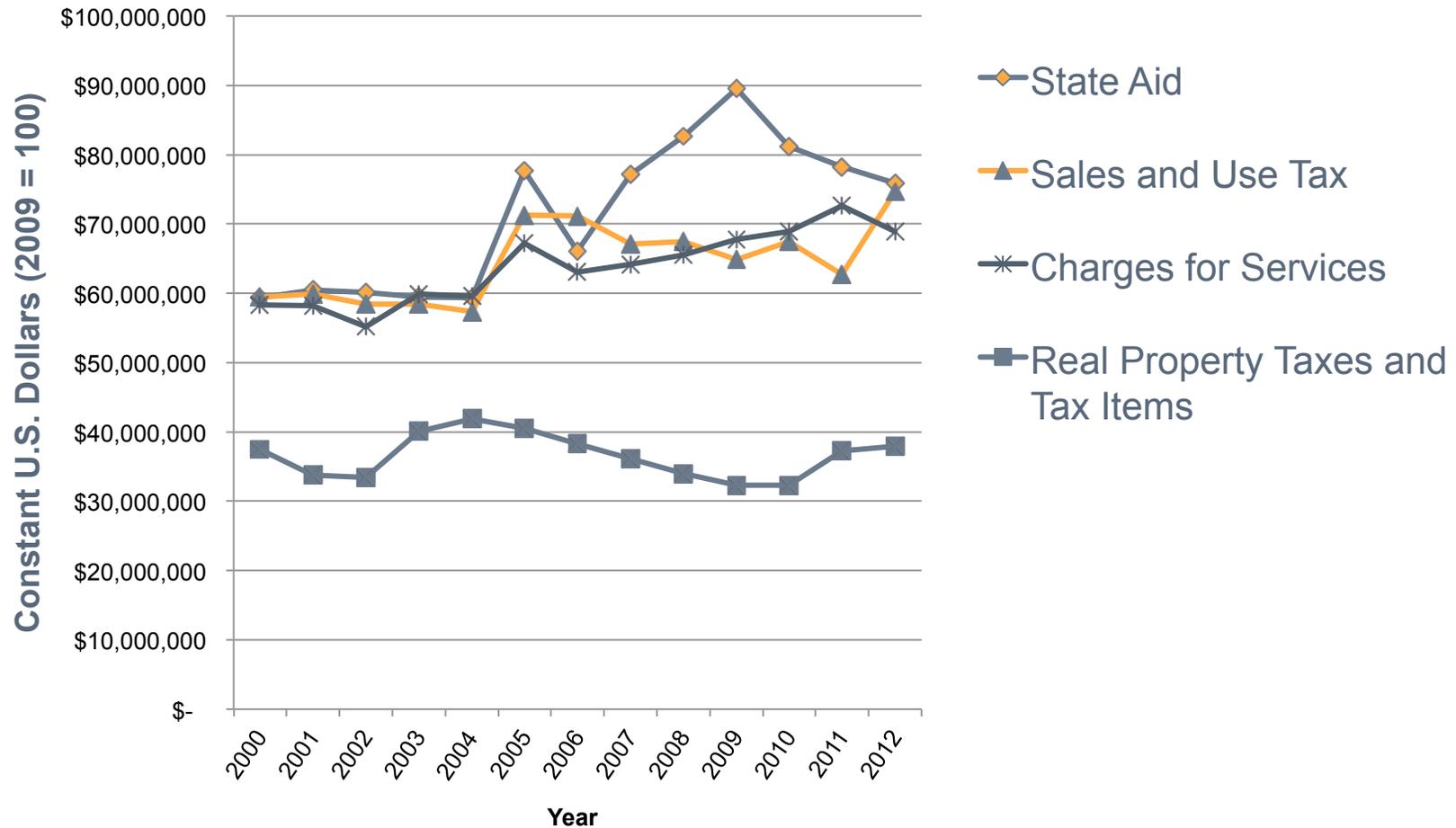
The main fiscal challenges currently confronting the City include rising **pension and benefit costs**, declining **state aid**, and a struggling **property tax base**.



Source: Post-Standard

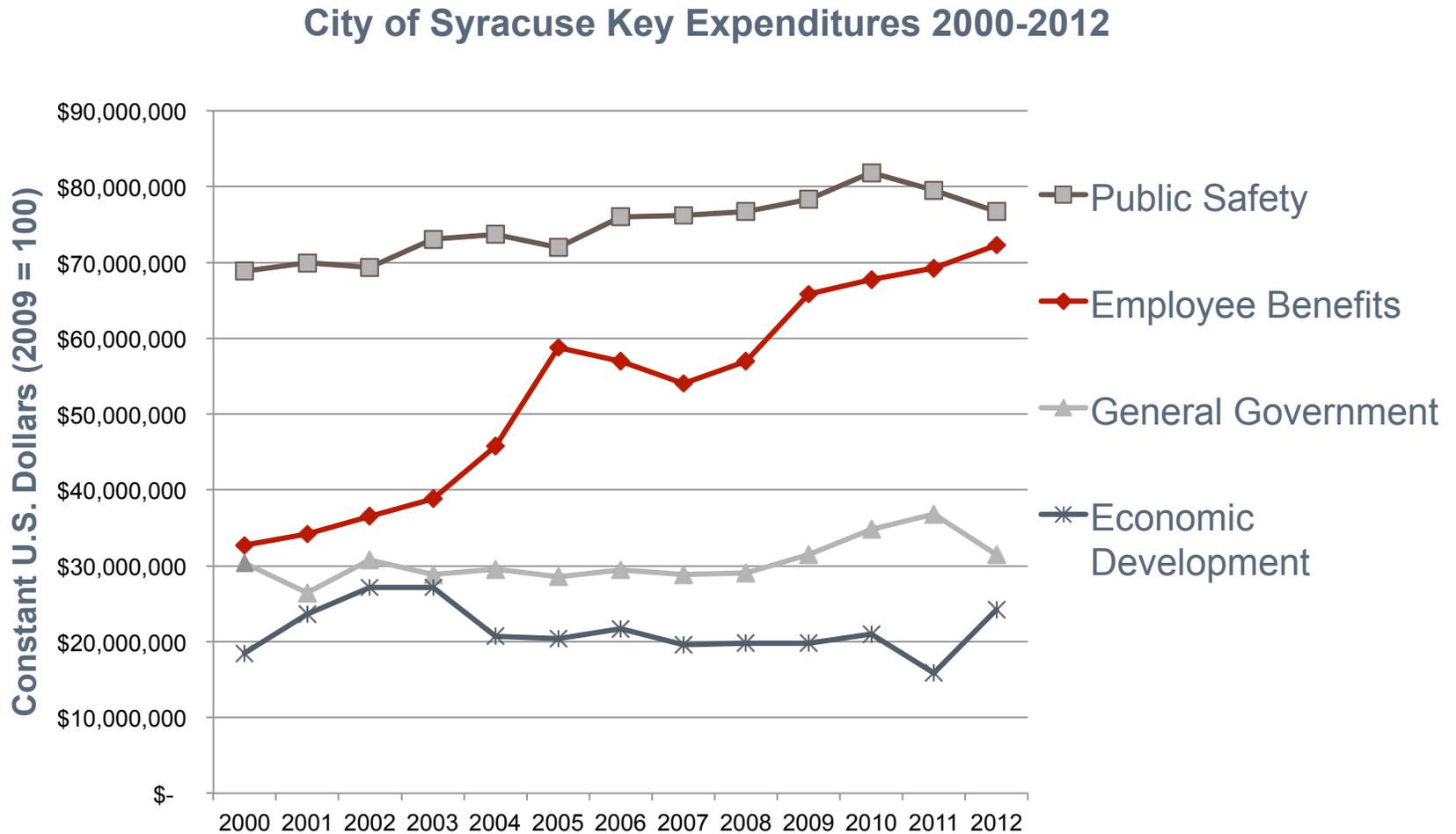
Since 2009, **state aid revenue has decreased 15.2%** and is at its lowest level since 2006.

Select City of Syracuse Revenue Sources, 2000-2012



Source: Author analysis based on data from the Office of New York State Comptroller 2014
www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/index.htm

Since 2000, state mandated City spending on **employee benefits** increased by **221%**.



Source: Author analysis based on data from the Office of New York State Comptroller 2014
www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/index.htm

Expenditure **reductions** and downward **adjustments** help lower internal operating costs.

Reductions

Parking garage	Closed
	\$15 million

Police and DPW	Reduced overtime costs
	\$1.9 million

Workforce	Reduced by 10% between 2009 and 2011
	\$7 million

Adjustments

Infrastructure	Delayed repairs
	~ \$30 million

Labor contracts	Negotiated zero increases
	\$9.6 million total (\$1.6M per contract)

Airport security services	Privatized
	\$2.5 million per year

Healthcare	Negotiated savings with non-profit hospitals
	~\$995,000

Source: Office of Mayor Stephanie Miner, 2013.

Save the Rain is a multi-pronged storm water management program. The **Forman Park** redevelopment project is an example of water absorption through urban forestry.



Source: Connective Corridor, Syracuse University

In an effort to stabilize neighborhoods and the property tax base, the **Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation** acquires buildings in order to return them to productive use.



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- One of 10 landbanks in NY; country-wide jurisdiction
 - 38 parcels transferred as of October 2013. Eligible buildings are vacant, abandoned, underutilized, or tax delinquent.
 - 1,8000 (est.) eligible properties for seizure in Syracuse.
 - \$3 million start-up grant from NYS Attorney General
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Source: Greater Syracuse Land Bank; Post-Standard

Partnerships enable service sharing and the diversification of revenue sources. The **relatively minor costs savings** underpin the challenge of massive municipal savings under this model.



County Executive Joanie Mahoney and Mayor Stephanie Miner

CITY/COUNTY Cooperation

Sales Tax	25% City 75% County
Combined purchasing	\$220K
Consolidated mail services	\$28K/year

PILOTS

Payment in Lieu of Taxes

Crouse Hospital	\$50K/year; \$200k total
Syracuse university	\$500K/year; \$2.5M total.

Source: Office of Mayor Stephanie Miner, 2013

The **Connective Corridor** is intended to create a **cohesive physical path** from Syracuse University through downtown Syracuse, spurring activity and private economic investment.



Source: Post-Standard; Connective Corridor