

FY23-24 Town of Garner Budget in Brief

Town Manager's Note

The Garner Town Council approved a \$60.9 million operating budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024, a 14% increase over the FY23 amended budget on June 20, 2023. The total tax rate for FY24 starting July 1, 2023 is 62.7 cents, a 7.49 cent increase over the FY23 adopted rate. The budget targets not only critical needs of the Town but is focused on improving Town and Garner Fire-Rescue employee pay to retain and attract top talent, anticipate and manage growth, and continue to ensure Town residents and staff are safe and secure in their everyday lives.

This budget addresses critical workforce issues, recreational amenities, infrastructure and services needs in our growing community and positions the Town for success. To ensure this, Council approved an additional penny for parks and facility maintenance and repair so our residents can continue to enjoy our parks and recreational facilities. Additionally, staff has worked to seek grant funds to leverage 2021 bond funding. To date, the Town has been awarded approximately \$4 million in grant funding to be used to

supplement the 2021 bond program.

Public safety remains a top priority for the Town. The FY24 Adopted Budget includes 4 new police officers to maintain service levels, an upgrade to the FLOCK software system for Police, and 3 fire battalion chiefs cost-shared with Wake County to ensure Fire Station #5 will be fully staffed when it opens in 2024. The budget also includes an additional .49 cents for public safety technology that will be used for the body and in-car-camera upgrades.

Garner continues to follow well-managed fiscal policies and practices that have resulted in reaffirmed credit ratings of AAA by Standard & Poor's and Aa1 by Moody's Investors Services. To review the full FY 2023-2024 budget document, please visit the [Town's Budget Portal](#).



Rodney Dickerson
Town Manager

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

FY24 ADOPTED BUDGET
\$60.9M

7.49¢ CENT
TAX RATE INCREASE
APPROVED

Public Safety Staff Investments

- > Market Rate Pay Increases
- > 4 New Police Officers
- > 3 Fire Battalion Chiefs

BREAKDOWN OF TAX RATE INCREASE

2¢



2021
Bond Program

2¢



9 New
Full Time Employees

1.5¢



Fire Station 5
Staffing & Operations

.49¢



Police Camera
Upgrades

1¢



Small Capital Projects,
Parks Maintenance,
& Facilities Repair

.5¢



Mid-Year Pay Adjustment
& FLOCK Software

PAY & CLASS STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

To ensure the Town of Garner can recruit and retain great staff, the FY23-24 budget will fund pay increases for Town employees and Garner Fire-Rescue personnel to bring salaries more in line with what their peers earn in neighboring communities. Staff has worked diligently to leverage American Rescue Plan and Revenue Savings Plan dollars to offset further tax-rate increases and to fully fund market-rate pay increases so the Town of Garner may continue to offer the level of high quality services that our citizens have come to expect.

FY23-24 Town of Garner Budget in Brief

Revenue Source	Adopted FY23-24	% of Budget	Expenditure Function	Adopted FY23-24	% of Budget
Ad Valorem Taxes	35,728,397	58.7%	General Government	8,862,003	14.6%
Intergovernmental Revenue	3,396,215	5.6%	Public Safety	18,500,996	30.4%
Investment Earnings	400,000	0.7%	Development Services	6,404,225	10.5%
Other Financing Sources	6,741,539	11.1%	Debt Service	6,059,278	10.0%
Other Revenue	214,775	0.4%	Transportation	5,987,070	9.8%
Sales Tax & Other Taxes	10,029,941	16.5%	Transfers	6,469,834	10.6%
Permits & Fees	3,690,283	6.0%	Culture and Recreation	5,619,816	9.2%
Fees for Service	671,051	1.0%	Environmental Protection	2,968,979	4.9%
Total	\$60,872,201	100%	Total	\$60,872,201	100%

Revenue Highlights

- Seven point four-nine (7.49) cent property tax increase to support the 2021 bonds, Fire Station 5 operations and staff, public safety technology, parks and facility maintenance, 9 new employees and a 2% mid-year pay adjustment for Town and Garner Fire-Rescue employees.
- Utilization of \$2.0 million in Revenue Savings Plan and \$1.5 million American Rescue Plan (included as Other Financing Sources) for vehicle replacement, debt service, and facility maintenance and repair.
- Increase Other Taxes for continued sales tax growth related to consumer spending.

Expenditure Highlights

- An annual investment of \$3.5 million to implement the results of the Pay and Class Study and a 2% mid-year pay adjustment for Town and Garner Fire-Rescue staff.
- Five (5) new FTEs for general government: risk and safety manager, custodial supervisor, HR technician, accountant and paralegal.
- Continued support for Public Safety including 4 police officers and 3 battalion chiefs for Garner Fire-Rescue to be cost-shared with Wake County.
- \$40,000 for the Flock Camera System upgrade for Garner Police.

Capital Improvement Highlights

The FY 2024 – 2028 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes funding requirements totaling \$98.9 million. In addition to fully allocating \$69.0 million approved by voters for the 2021 Bond Program, this includes:



\$7 million
to support public and park facility maintenance including a dedicated penny for Park and Facility Maintenance



.49 cents
dedicated annually to supporting public safety technologies including body and in-car camera systems for Garner Police



\$6.36 million
in Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP) Grant funding to support roadway projects



\$4.7 million
in grant funding to support parks construction and rehabilitation projects