



**\$35.2 million
adopted budget**

\$2 million (6.1%) above
adopted FY17-18 budget



**Property tax
rate unchanged**

53.25 cents/
\$100 valuation

TOWN MAKES INVESTMENTS TO FACILITATE GROWTH IN ADOPTED FY 2018-19 OPERATING BUDGET

Adjustments Improve Residents' Access to Recreational Opportunities

THE GARNER TOWN COUNCIL adopted a \$35,232,082 annual operating budget for fiscal year 2018-19. The FY 2018-19 budget increased by \$2,030,604, or 6.1 percent, over the FY 2017-18 budget. This growth allowed for strategic investments to be made that will ensure that the Town of Garner is positioned to prosper in the future. Growth occurred in several revenue categories and was not the result of an increase to property taxes as the rate remains at 53.25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The Town of Garner is at a critical stage of development; the significant growth experienced in recent years is beginning to positively impact revenue streams. As construction projects are finalized, the Town's primary revenue source, property taxes, is positively affected. This growth offers the Town a tremendous opportunity to enhance the services available to residents and to invest in the infrastructure required to facilitate growth.

The FY 2018-19 budget includes various adjustments designed to improve residents' access to recreational opportunities. For example, funding is included to provide staff coverage and recreational programming at the Garner Recreation Center, which will open this fiscal year. This investment will allow residents to

enjoy the nearly 40,000-square-foot facility, which will include a gymnasium with three regulation-size high school basketball courts; a raised, indoor exercise/walking track; aerobics/fitness, art and multipurpose rooms; and administrative offices for Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources staff.

In addition, Town Council approved an increase to the annual motor vehicle fee, which will allow for additional resources to be dedicated to the upkeep of Town roadways. During FY 2018-19, this funding will increase the Town's capacity to resurface and otherwise maintain streets that are not state roadways. In addition, it will allow staff to hire a consultant to perform an analysis to develop a long-term strategy for repairing and maintaining the Town's roadway system. This investment will help to ensure that the Town is positioned to meet future growth.

This budget does an excellent job of making necessary investments to meet current demand and address future requirements. The entire budget document, and additional information, can be found on the Town's website at garnernc.gov/departments/finance. The back page of this document provides information on special initiatives and investments in the budget as well as an expenditures/revenues graphic.



TOWN OF GARNER BUDGET IN BRIEF – FY 2018-19

FY 2018-19 GENERAL FUND OVERVIEW

REVENUES

PROPERTY TAX	\$18,569,806	52.7%
OTHER TAXES & LICENSES	\$2,233,480	6.3%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$6,863,875	19.4%
PERMITS AND FEES	\$3,334,967	9.5%
SALES AND SERVICE FEES	\$573,573	1.6%
INVESTMENT REVENUE	\$410,000	1.2%
OTHER REVENUE	\$163,250	0.5%
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$3,083,131	8.8%
TOTAL	\$35,232,082	100%

EXPENDITURES

PUBLIC SAFETY	\$13,044,176	37.0%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$7,750,228	22.0%
DEBT SERVICE	\$3,717,729	10.6%
TRANSPORTATION	\$3,773,720	10.7%
CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL	\$3,405,327	9.7%
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING	\$1,952,169	5.5%
TRANSFERS	\$1,588,733	4.5%
TOTAL	\$35,232,082	100%

SPECIAL INITIATIVES AND INVESTMENTS IN FY 2018-19

ADDITIONAL STAFFING

The FY 2018-19 budget includes funding for six new full-time positions. Two of the positions were included in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources for administrative oversight and to grow programs and leagues at the new Recreation Center. Two positions were approved in Public Works to allow managers to spend a greater portion of their time in the field managing, and overseeing, work-related tasks. The Police Department will receive a school resource officer due to the opening of South Garner High and a training officer to address challenges with recruiting and hiring qualified applicants and training requirements.

REVENUE SAVINGS PLAN

The plan, which dedicates a portion of new revenue growth to a capital reserve to meet future debt requirements, is entering its fifth year. Based on the initial analysis of the plan (comparing the FY 2017-18 budget to FY 2018-19), staff projects the combined increase for qualifying revenues to be 4.89 percent, which exceeds the minimum 1 percent threshold for triggering the plan into action. Based on the approved plan, a total of \$289,587 will be added to the Town's prior-year cumulative amount of \$847,519 for a total contribution to the Revenue Savings Plan of \$1,137,106.

MULTI-YEAR FUNDING APPROACH

The Town has established several mechanisms to enhance multi-year planning efforts. New multi-



The Town will add personnel to grow programs and leagues at the new Garner Recreation Center in FY 2018-19.

year funds have been established for vehicles and IT equipment, which will allow staff to review future-year requirements and make necessary investments. In addition, a multi-year operating project fund has been established to facilitate the process of reviewing complex issues over multiple years.

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

As part of the FY 2018-19 budget development process, staff began to identify key Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) requirements. This plan focuses on identifying both requirements, and funding sources, for items that will require action within a five-year period. Staff believes that the plan included as part of the FY 2018-19 budget will serve as the framework for establishing a long-term CIP process. Staff will expand this process in the summer/fall, which will allow for a proposed comprehensive CIP to be presented to the Town Council as part of its annual retreat in November.