CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

2025 FISCAL YEAR KEEPS EXISTING MILLAGE RATE

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While maintaining efficiency, this budget includes enhancements to all essential services. As a result of fiscal responsibility and City Council providing necessary equipment and personnel in previous years, departmental requests have been funded without requiring a city tax increase for residents.

THIS YEAR'S BUDGET INCLUDES AN EMPHASIS ON:

Maintaining Police and Fire budgets while adding and upgrading equipment to continue to provide efficient and effective emergency response.

Enhancements to City's payment portal for better customer service, notification alerts, and direct access to meter data.

Providing financial resources for improvements to the water and sewer infrastructure throughout West Columbia.

Superior emergency services with the Fire Department maintaining the highest possible ISO rating of "1" in the nation, keeping insurance costs lower for residents and business owners.

Providing expanded operation and maintenance to the water and sewer systems in line with the 2018 plan.

Enhancing public service with additional equipment in public parks, spaces, and sanitation department.

OTHER PRIORITIES INCLUDE:

- Maximizing grant opportunities to capitalize on all funding sources
- Attracting new industries, tourism, exciting events, beautification, improved access for pedestrians and vehicles, and maintaining ongoing support for the hospitality industry
- Allocated funding for blight removal, beautification for commercial areas and corridors, and enhancing the attractiveness of public spaces
- Supporting resources in development services to leverage current assets and achieve mid and long-range plans
- Implementation of the 2024-2025 Council Goals & Priorities
  - » Beautification and enhancements to key corridors
  - » Fire Department Assessment
  - » Intersection Improvement Plans at main thoroughfare
  - » Bike Lane Extension Plan

DID YOU KNOW?

- City millage accounts for less than 18% of the Lexington County property tax bill
- West Columbia has the lowest in-city combined water and sewer rates in Lexington County and the Midlands
- The City provides sanitation and recycling services for no additional cost to residents

FISCAL YEAR 2024 - 2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET SUMMARY



