

City Manager Recommends Budget of Basics

On Monday, May 8, City Manager Pam Syfert recommended a budget to Charlotte City Council that emphasizes safety, streets and service.

The City can cover current services, including higher costs for them, without additional revenue. The budget does include a proposed 4.5¢ increase in the property tax rate to pay for new police officers, needed road improvements, revitalizing neighborhoods, and increasing the availability of affordable housing.

Impact of the proposed tax increase on the citizen's tax bill				
House Value	Impact of Proposed 4.5¢ Increase			
	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
\$150,000	\$67.50	\$5.63	\$1.30	\$0.18
\$219,000	\$98.55	\$8.21	\$1.90	\$0.27
\$500,000	\$225	\$18.75	\$4.33	\$0.62

The proposed increase would fund the following:

Capital Investments (Allocation of 3.25¢)

- Transportation Projects (i.e. roads, sidewalks and bike lanes)
- Neighborhood Improvements
- Affordable Housing
- Fire Stations



Public Safety (Allocation of .75¢)

Includes the addition of 55 sworn Police positions and other civilian positions including a Gang of One coordinator and crime lab technicians.

Street resurfacing (Allocation of .50¢)

Allows City to resurface streets every 18 years instead of every 28-31 years.

User Fees

- **Water and Sewer Service**
Residential water and sewer customers will see an increase of 6.5% in water and sewer rates. The increase will help fund capital investments such as additional water and sewer lines and facilities. The average monthly water/sewer bill for residential customers will increase \$3.08 from \$47.39 to \$50.47.
- **Storm Water**
To support growth in the City's aggressive storm water management program, storm water rates will rise 7%, increasing the average fee 34¢ from \$4.81 to \$5.15.



What's Next?

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| Council Budget Adjustments | May 17th |
| Public Hearing (including storm water) | May 22nd |
| Adjustments and straw votes | May 31st |
| Budget Adoption | June 12th |

Want More Information?

Visit citybudget.charmeck.org or tune in to *City Source*, the City's weekly news show, which airs Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. on The Government Channel-Cable 16.

✂ *Clip here*

Have Your Say on Proposed Budget

On May 22 at 7 p.m., Charlotte City Council will conduct a public hearing for residents to offer feedback on the budget recommendations. In addition to that forum and also for your convenience, we have developed this form to gather public input.

1. To what extent do you believe these additions are important? Rate on a scale of 1-10 by circling your responses. 1=not all important and 10=very important.

Capital—Additional Fire Stations
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Capital—Affordable Housing
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Capital—Neighborhood Improvements
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Capital—Transportation Projects
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Additional Police Personnel
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Repaving Streets
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2. I am willing to pay more for additional police, road improvements and capital investments. Please circle your response:

Additional Fire Stations	Yes	No
Additional Police Personnel	Yes	No
Affordable Housing	Yes	No
Neighborhood Improvements	Yes	No
Repaving streets, pothole repair	Yes	No
Transportation Projects	Yes	No

3. If these additions are important, but not enough for an increase, what services would you reduce or cut to achieve funding?

4. Are there additional services you believe are necessary that have not been funded? If so, what are they?

5. Are you a property owner? Yes No

6. Where do you live? (Circle one)
Inside Charlotte's City limits
Outside Charlotte's City limits

7. If you reside in the City limits, for how long have you lived there? Please circle your response:

0-2 yrs 3-5 yrs 6-10 yrs 11-15 yrs 15+ yrs

Please clip and fax your completed form to 704-336-6587 or mail it to City of Charlotte, Corporate Communications, 600 E. 4th Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

