

Manager's Update

raleighnc.gov



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May 9, 2025

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INFORMATION:

Work Session - Tuesday, May 13 - 4:00 P.M.

Reminder that Council will meet next **Tuesday** in a scheduled work session at **4:00 P.M.**

The agenda for the work session was posted to the electronic agenda management system Thursday.

Public Comment Session - Tuesday, May 13 - 7:00 P.M.

Reminder that Council will meet next **Tuesday** in a scheduled public comment session at **7:00 P.M.**

Customer Service Management – Software Implementation

Staff Resource: Karen Ray, Customer Experience Manager, 996-2379, karen.ray@raleighnc.gov

In 2024 staff began working on a replacement solution for the City citizen service request portal ([Citizen Service Request \(SeeClickFix\) | Raleighnc.gov](https://citizen.service.request.raleighnc.gov)). The identified solution will be implemented in phases with phase one being released to the public on July 1. Staff in multiple departments have been identified to perform live testing from April through June to ensure the system is working as expected. While there will be ongoing development of the system, staff will be introducing a new portal: **"Ask Raleigh"**. Extensive

external communication efforts will begin in the coming months to bring awareness to this support option. Additional information has been included with the *Update* materials for review.

(Attachment)

Q3FY25 Financial Update

Staff Resource: Allison Bradsher, Finance, 996-4970, allison.bradsher@raleighnc.gov

Staff from the Finance department have prepared the Q3FY25 Financial Update to highlight the performance of revenues and expenses citywide as of the end of the third quarter for the current fiscal year (FY25). The Q3FY25 Financial Update provides an overview of General Fund taxes and user fees. In addition, the report includes General Fund year-to-date spending on personnel and non-personnel operating expenses. Finally, an update on the performance of the City's Enterprise Funds is also included.

(Attachment)

Destination 2055: Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Triangle Region

Staff Resource: Regan Buchanan, Transportation, 996-2157, regan.buchanan@raleighnc.gov

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) is in the process of updating their Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): *Destination 2055*. The plan is being developed in a coordinated effort between CAMPO and the Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization, previously known as the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO. The plan will identify and recommend projects for all modes that will support transportation throughout the Triangle region for the next 30 years.

What has been done, and where are we now?

Destination 2055 will be completed in four phases- Vision, Goals, and Objectives; Alternatives Analysis; Preferred Option Review; and Adoption. The Vision, Goals and Objectives phase was completed in the Winter of 2024, and the plan is currently in the Alternatives Analysis phase. There is an opportunity for public engagement at each phase. The engagement for the first phase of the plan was a survey, which closed in Winter of 2024. The results of that survey are available [here](#). The engagement opportunity for the Alternatives Analysis phase is also a survey, which is open until May 26. The survey asks participants about their personal travel preferences as well as their priorities and goals for transportation in the region. Members of the public can participate [here](#).

What's coming up?

The [Plan Development Schedule](#) on the *Destination 2055* website calls for public engagement for Summer 2025 around the preferred scenario in the MTP. There are no details currently about the form or dates of that public engagement. The schedule also sets adoption of the new MTP for Fall 2025 and completion of the entire process by Winter 2025-26.

Transportation staff will partner with Communications and CAMPO on messaging and available communication outlets. For more information about the MTP update, access the project website [here](#).

(No attachment)

Design Review Commission Recommendations

Staff Resource: Travis Crane, Planning & Development, 996-2656, travis.crane@raleighnc.gov

As part of its annual work program, the Design Review Commission (DRC) submitted its annual work program to the Council. The annual work program detailed the work performed for the previous year and identified two potential enhancements to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). Included with the *Update* materials is a staff memorandum that provides background, next steps and suggested action should the Council wish to authorize action.

(Attachment)

National Flood Insurance Program - Community Rating System Participation and Discount

Staff Resource: Seamus Riley, Engineering Services, 996-3598, seamus.riley@raleighnc.gov

The City has officially joined the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), a voluntary program administered by FEMA. The program recognizes and incentivizes municipalities to implement proactive measures to reduce flood risk and enhance community resilience. As a result of our efforts in floodplain management, stormwater infrastructure improvements, public education, and emergency preparedness, Raleigh has earned a Class 5 CRS rating.

This rating places Raleigh among the top-rated communities in North Carolina for flood resilience. Effective October 1, 2025, all NFIP policyholders within Raleigh will receive a 25% discount on annual flood insurance premiums. These savings are automatic and reflect FEMA recognition of the City's comprehensive flood mitigation strategies. The CRS program classifies communities on a scale of 1 to 10, with Class 1 providing the highest discount. Our Class 5 rating demonstrates strong commitment to protecting lives and property, while also providing significant financial benefits to residents. Staff will continue to implement and enhance CRS-related activities to maintain or improve this rating in the future. For more information about the CRS program, please visit the [FEMA CRS webpage](https://www.fema.gov/crs). For information about flood insurance, please visit <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>.

(No attachment)

Weekly Digest of Special Events

Staff Resource: Sarah Heinsohn, Office of Special Events, 996-2200, sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov

Included with the *Update* materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

Council Member Follow Up Items

Follow up to the April 1 Council Meeting

Tree Removal (Council Member Harrison)

Staff Resource: Travis Crane, Planning & Development, 996-2656, travis.crane@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting, Council asked staff to provide information related to tree removal and associated penalties for any unapproved removal of trees. This item has also been placed on the May 27 Growth and Natural Resources Committee meeting. Included with the *Update* materials is a staff memorandum in response to the request, including specific information about the property in question and the regulations related to tree removal and conservation.

(Attachment)

Follow up to the April 15 Council Meeting

Minor Subdivisions (Mayor Cowell)

Staff Resource: Travis Crane, Planning & Development, 996-2656, travis.crane@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting, Council asked staff to provide information related to minor subdivisions. State law contains an allowance to accept and process certain small exempt subdivisions. Included with the *Update* materials is a staff memorandum that provides background, next steps and suggested action should the Council wish to authorize action.

(Attachment)

LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study (Council Member Lambert-Melton)

Staff Resource: Tania Tully, Planning & Development, 996-2674, tania.tully@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting, the Raleigh Historic Development Commission presented the LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study final report. In discussing this item, Council requested additional information on the project goals and deliverables, specifically implementation of non-regulatory recognition of properties identified as having special historic significance to the LGBTQIA+ community.

Included with the *Update* materials is a staff memorandum that provides additional information about the project objectives and steps being made to implement digital mapping in concert with physical markers.

(Attachment)

Tax Increment Grants and the Lenovo Center Development (Council Member Harrison)

Staff Resource: Kenneth Bowers, Planning & Development, 996-2633, kenneth.bowers@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting, Council requested additional information on the Tax Increment Grant (TIG) program and the potential to leverage the new sales and property taxes to be generated by development at the

Lenovo Center to fund infrastructure improvements supporting and enhancing this major mixed-use development. The City adopted a TIG policy on May 4, 2021. While the City has begun utilizing other partnership tools, including reimbursement agreements, no TIG agreement has been negotiated or approved during the life of the program.

Staff have prepared an amendment to the TIG policy intended to broaden the applicability of the tool and align it with the larger City partnership program. This will be scheduled for a future City Council meeting. In the meantime, an agreement to fund infrastructure associated with the Lenovo Center could be negotiated under the current policy. However, use of the tool would require the interest and participation of the Lenovo Center development team - in a TIG agreement, the developer agrees to finance and build the infrastructure, and the City reimburses the developer over time. To date, staff have not been approached by the developers indicating an interest in entering into such an agreement. Should such interest arise, staff would be ready work on identifying an appropriate suite of public infrastructure improvements and a financing plan using the TIG program.

(No attachment)

Follow up to the May 6 Council Meeting

Biennial Community Survey (Council Member Branch)

Staff Resource: Macie Rush-Frazelle, Strategy & Innovation, 996-4323, macie.rush@raleighnc.gov

Staff was requested to provide the proportion of survey respondents by Council district. Of particular interest to the Council was the proportion of respondents from District C compared to other districts, to assess whether the survey data accurately reflects the district share of the overall population. There was also interest how results might compare statewide.

Below is a breakdown of the survey responses by district, alongside corresponding population percentages based on 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) data for comparison. Additionally, following the table below staff has provided hyperlinks to ETC survey results from other municipalities in North Carolina that have recently conducted similar surveys.

District	Survey Responses	Survey Percent	Est. Population 2022	Population Percent	Delta
A	261	23.56	93,595	20.07	3.49
B	169	15.25	91,568	19.64	- 4.39
C	210	18.95	104,136	22.33	- 3.38
D	205	18.5	87,793	18.83	- 0.33
E	260	23.47	89,166	19.12	4.35
<NA>	3	0.27			

City of Winston-Salem [ETC Report](#)

City of Durham [ETC Report](#)

Mecklenburg County [ETC Results](#) dashboard

(No attachment)

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Evan Raleigh, Assistant City Manager
From	Karen Ray, Customer Experience Manager
Department	City Manager's Office
Date	05/01/2025
Subject	Customer Experience Program Update

In February 2024, the City of Raleigh hired a Customer Experience Manager to focus on work in three key areas:

- 1) Convene city-wide customer service leaders to establish common goals, service expectations, service level standards and tools to provide a seamless, high quality customer service experience. This will include the implementation and administration of a customer service management Tool.
- 2) Guide the development of the city's customer service strategy, ensuring consistent practices citywide while establishing and monitoring performance standards.
- 3) Coordinate customer service delivery expectations for the Customer Experience Center in the new City Hall.

Between February 2024 and April 30th, 2025, work has been moving forward in each of these areas with the primary focus being service standards and the implementation of a customer service management tool. The implementation of phase one for the selected software solution began in October 2025.

Prior to software implementation beginning, the Customer Experience Manager met with members of the following groups for feedback:

Community Engagement Board – March 13, 2024 & September 11, 2024

Five Points Citizen Advisory Council - July 11, 2024

Raleigh Citizen Advisory Council – August 28, 2024

Engage Raleigh Expo – September 7, 2024

Five Points Citizen Advisory Council – September 9, 2024

Midtown Citizen Advisory Council – February 24, 2025

In addition, a survey was created that was shared with each of those groups as well as current SeeClickFix users, and via social media. During the engagement meetings, information was collected from participants about current services and offered potential solutions. The same was shared in the survey. Survey responses were very limited,

however direct feedback from community members was consistent and valuable. Community feedback indicates the preferred contact with the city is via phone and all would prefer one phone number for the city. Secondary preference is self-service, however lack of trust in response is limiting desire to continue to utilize that option.

In partnership with Information Technology, and with the assistance of an external solutions partner, we have reached phase one implementation of our selected solution. Phase one implementation provides a replacement solution for the current SeeClickFix functionality with some improvements to routing, accountability and awareness for our customers.

The customer portal, referred to as “Ask Raleigh” will become available to the public on July 1, 2025. The solution is currently being live tested by staff in the City Council Office, City Manager’s Office, Housing & Neighborhoods, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, Planning and Development, Solid Waste Services and Transportation.

Phase one is limited in scope, and improvements have been implemented based on direct customer and staff feedback. Some of the improvements are noted below:

- 1) Service Level Agreements (SLA’s) noted for each case type.
- 2) Improved routing for processing efficiency.
- 3) Notification to customers when submitting a request where a property or location is outside of the city’s jurisdiction. When applicable, a redirection to the State’s customer portal is available.
- 4) Notification to customers when submitting the same or similar issue to one that has already been logged. This will reduce duplication of effort and will offer customers to be added to a “watch list” for notification upon issue closure.
- 5) Improved map location functionality.

We will continue to develop this technology solution over the next several years using customer and staff feedback as well as system data to identify and implement improvements. Our goals are to reduce confusion for the customers, improve routing and duplication for staff and deliver timely and consistent service. In addition, the data collected using this system will allow us the opportunity to make better data driven decisions for process improvement, work routing and cross-departmental coordination.

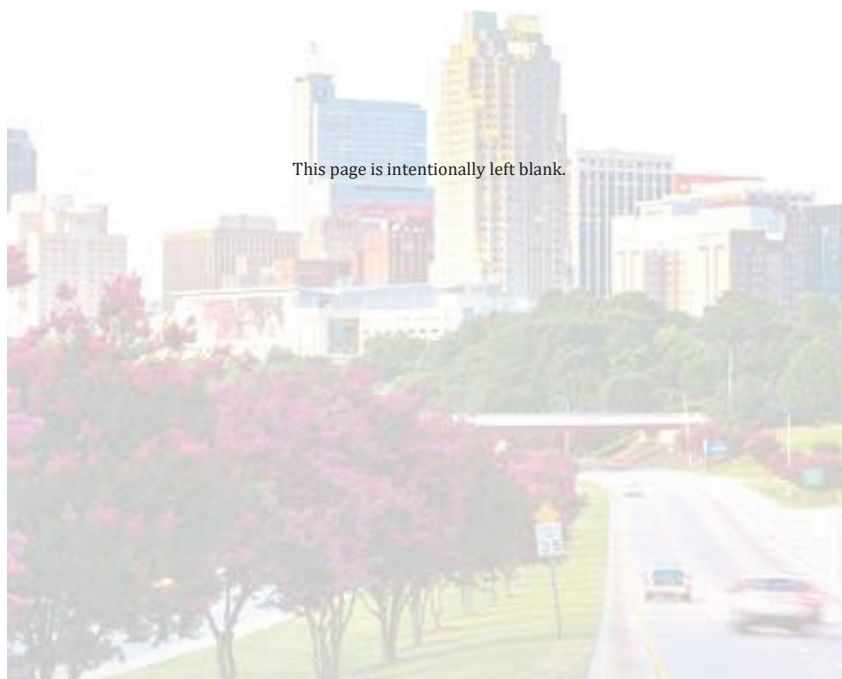
CITY OF RALEIGH

Q3FY25 FINANCIAL UPDATE

May 9, 2025



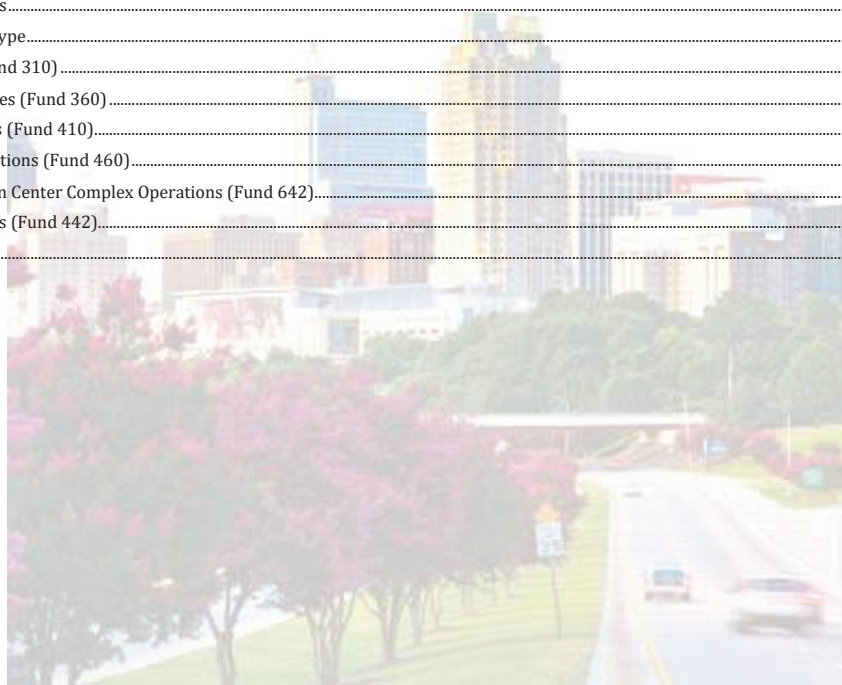
Finance Department



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Introduction

The City strives for financial data transparency and the annual financial reporting process is highlighted below. The City operates on a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30. Information in this report is unaudited and intended for informational purposes only. Please refer to the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for audited financial results.

Quarterly Updates: The report provides summary analysis for the City and includes budget and actual results, trends and other financial information. The goal of the report is to inform and assist in decision-making and to identify any significant issues that may impact year-end financial performance. The report provides clear and timely financial information to City Leadership, City Council, and other interested stakeholders.

The first several pages of the report share financial information for the General Fund. The General Fund is the City's main operating fund accounting for core governmental functions. The last section of the report includes details on the City's enterprise funds. Enterprise funds account for activities supported with user fees/charges and are operated like a private-sector business. This report includes enterprise fund summaries for Raleigh Water, Solid Waste Services, Stormwater, Parking, Raleigh Convention Center Complex, and Public Transit Operations.



Executive Summary

Economic Outlook

Many economists report that the U.S. economy contracted during the first quarter of 2025, largely due to an increase in imports ahead of tariffs and a reduction in government spending. Despite consumer sentiment reaching a two-year low in March, consumer spending was positive with reports indicating March spending surged ahead of new tariffs. Inflation remained above the Federal Reserve's target and the Federal Reserve did not lower interest rates which are holding at 4.5%, with the Federal Chairman noting the continued steady pace of the economy and solid job market. Mixed messages have continued with the release of several key data points in April. The Conference Board released consumer expectations in April which measures American's outlook of the economy, the survey hit the lowest point in over thirteen years. The Bureau of Labor Statistics released April job data showing a strong and resilient jobs market with national unemployment holding at 4.2%. Staff will continue to monitor the larger macro-economic environment, the freezing of federal funds which may impact the City's grants, and impacts from U.S. tariffs which may increase the City's costs of doing business.

Executive Score Card

The executive score card provides a concise snapshot of the financial status of key City enterprise operations. Additional details are included in the report.

Enterprise Operations	Status Update
Raleigh Water	On Track
Solid Waste Services	On Track
Transit	Watch
Stormwater	On Track
Convention Center Complex	On Track
Parking	On Track

On Track – Performing as expected
 Watch – Staff closely monitoring
 Warning – Identified concerns that require attention

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General Fund Revenues

Revenues by Type

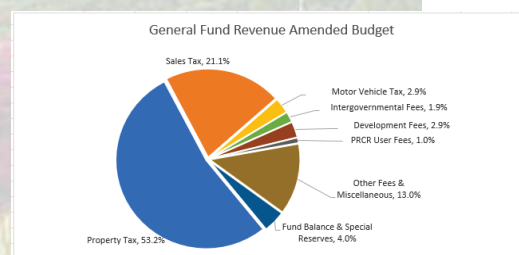
The table below identifies General Fund revenues grouped by major categories. These categories of financial activity for the current fiscal year are compared to the same point in the prior fiscal year.

Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
Property Tax	397,841,531	395,505,981	99%	330,341,000	333,523,604	101%	-1.6%
Sales Tax	157,760,000	80,179,775	51%	148,000,000	78,441,771	53%	-2.2%
Other Fees & Misc	33,184,935	24,480,327	74%	34,431,590	25,021,320	73%	1.1%
Franchise Tax	30,700,000	18,313,955	60%	28,300,000	15,976,501	56%	3.2%
Motor Vehicle Tax	21,345,878	15,477,934	73%	23,070,000	15,598,128	68%	4.9%
Development Fees	21,798,996	15,896,290	73%	17,808,608	16,332,443	92%	-18.8%
Other Taxes	16,350,000	10,033,288	61%	16,350,000	10,043,821	61%	-0.1%
Intergovernmental	14,410,242	9,484,927	66%	13,546,861	8,956,086	66%	-0.3%
Powell Bill	7,156,000	7,160,857	100%	7,156,000	7,160,857	100%	0.0%
Interest Income	9,800,000	7,034,438	72%	5,184,939	6,154,329	119%	-46.9%
PRCR User Fees	7,436,116	5,136,537	69%	6,622,057	4,737,489	72%	-2.5%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	30,272,390	-	0%	60,639,615	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$748,056,088	\$588,704,308	79%	\$691,450,670	\$521,946,349	75%	3.2%

Analysis

Revenue collections for the third quarter of FY25 are ahead of prior year when compared to budget. Further details are provided on the following pages for Property Tax, Sales Tax and User fees.

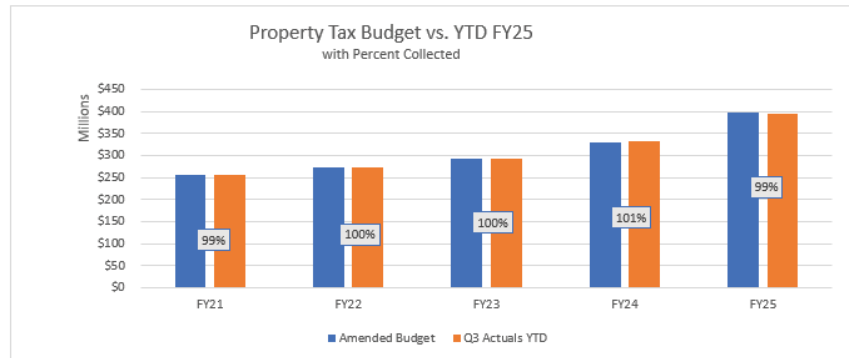
Based on staff projections and trending analysis, total revenues are expected to exceed budget by \$3M-\$8M, which is in-line with the second quarter report.



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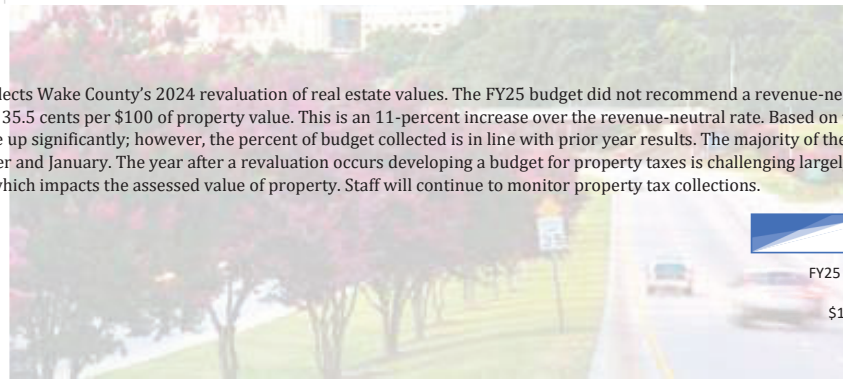
Revenue Highlights

Property Tax

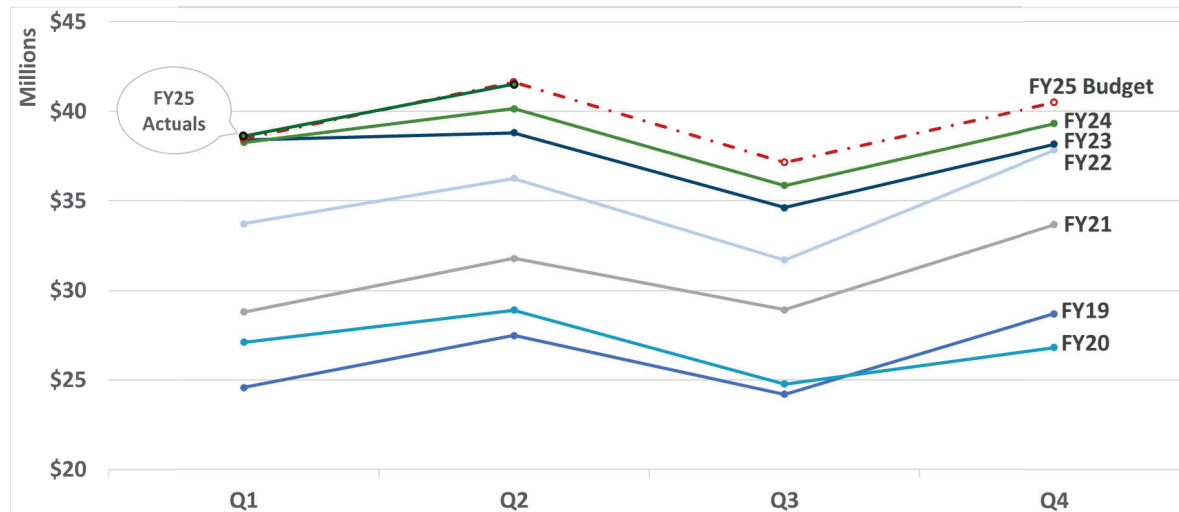


Analysis

The FY25 budget reflects Wake County's 2024 revaluation of real estate values. The FY25 budget did not recommend a revenue-neutral rate. The adopted tax rate is \$0.355, or 35.5 cents per \$100 of property value. This is an 11-percent increase over the revenue-neutral rate. Based on the new tax rate, year-over-year actuals are up significantly; however, the percent of budget collected is in line with prior year results. The majority of the property taxes are collected in December and January. The year after a revaluation occurs developing a budget for property taxes is challenging largely due to the timing of the appeal process which impacts the assessed value of property. Staff will continue to monitor property tax collections.



Sales Tax



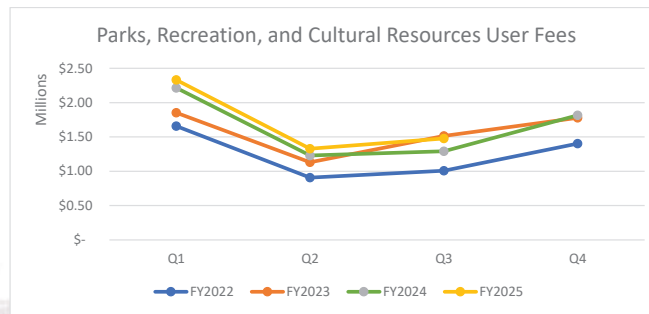
Analysis

The chart above provides a quarterly trend of actual sales tax collections dating back to FY19. As of result of pandemic stimulus funding provided to Americans, fiscal years FY20–FY22 reported significant year-to-year growth, from FY23 to FY25 increases have slowed to more moderate growth levels. The FY25 budget included an increase from final FY24 results of 2.7%. Based on six months of collections (July–December), revenues are currently tracking slightly ahead of budget, as shown by the red dotted line. With the addition of January and February actuals and early headlamps into future collections, the variance between actuals and budget continues to tighten. Year-to-date growth stands at ~1.6%. To meet the FY25 budget, sales tax collections will need to grow by 4.8% over the remaining four months.

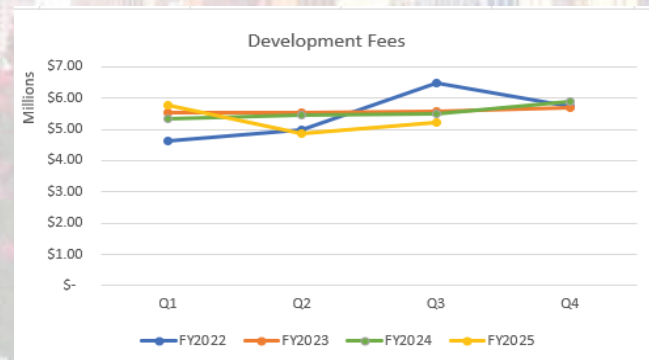
Sales tax remains a volatile revenue source and is highly dependent on consumer confidence and spending. Economist reports for March indicate an increase in spending as American consumers sought to buy goods ahead of tariff implementations. Staff will continue to review local and national economic data surrounding sales tax trends.

Other Revenues

PRCR revenues are tracking 8.4% above prior year Q3 actuals and are meeting expectations.



Development Fees are trending slightly behind last year collections by 2.7% at the end of Q3, April collections are improving.



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Expenditures by Type

In the table below you will find General Fund expenditures grouped by several major categories. These categories of financial activity for the current fiscal year are then compared to the prior fiscal year.

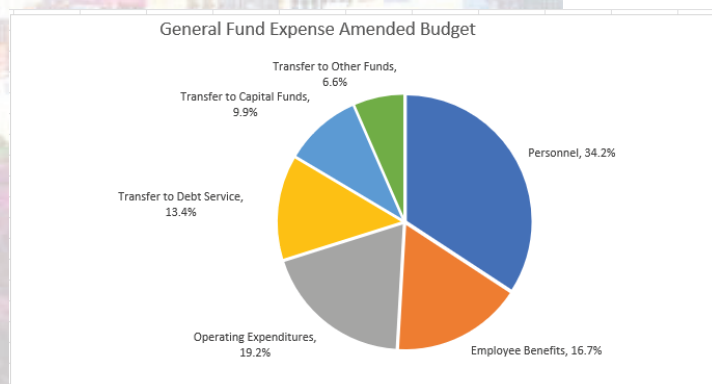
Expense Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Amended Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Amended Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	255,970,871	181,803,419	71%	237,828,717	161,540,563	68%	3.1%
Employee Benefits	124,909,069	89,880,654	72%	114,038,812	81,617,349	72%	0.4%
Operating Expenditures	143,836,237	93,422,319	65%	129,005,107	85,141,818	66%	-1.0%
Transfer to Debt Service	100,124,193	75,093,145	75%	101,483,360	76,112,520	75%	0.0%
Transfer to Capital Funds	74,196,850	56,925,269	77%	69,202,672	50,644,297	73%	3.5%
Transfer to Other Funds	49,018,869	38,086,109	78%	39,892,002	31,803,765	80%	-2.0%
Total	\$748,056,088	\$535,210,914	72%	\$691,450,670	\$486,860,312	70%	1.1%

Analysis

Overall, General Fund expenditures are performing as expected and are slightly higher than the third quarter results from the prior fiscal year.

Personnel expenditures are slightly higher than prior year due to continued investment in the City's workforce and lower vacancy rates. Operating expenditures are in line with expectations.

Based on staff projections and trending analysis, total expenditures are anticipated to utilize ~97% of the FY25 budget, which is in-line with the second quarter report. This projection reflects a year-over-year increase of budget utilization.



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Expenditures by Department

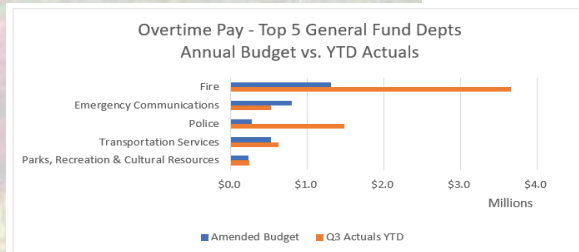
In the table below you will find current year General Fund department spending which is then compared to Q3 spending in the prior fiscal year.

Expense Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Police	139,473,187	101,409,165	73%	131,520,195	93,591,830	71%	1.5%
Fire	87,308,963	64,889,695	74%	78,359,160	57,176,242	73%	1.4%
Parks & Recreation	73,422,289	48,205,604	66%	65,698,264	44,069,638	67%	-1.4%
Transportation Services	40,857,644	28,537,951	70%	38,234,319	26,543,718	69%	0.4%
Engineering Services	30,965,378	17,821,420	58%	28,392,674	16,229,991	57%	0.4%
Information Technology	29,433,175	20,999,979	71%	26,924,749	18,090,767	67%	4.2%
Planning & Development	24,261,435	16,877,118	70%	22,712,059	15,043,299	66%	3.3%
Emergency Comms	16,589,600	9,841,930	59%	14,795,442	8,165,444	55%	4.1%
Finance	8,201,211	5,405,140	66%	7,885,338	4,802,126	61%	5.0%
City Manager & Offices	8,244,508	5,373,524	65%	7,532,399	4,701,165	62%	2.8%
Housing	7,513,027	4,587,794	61%	7,074,931	4,561,846	64%	-3.4%
Human Resources	7,135,256	4,588,700	64%	6,198,346	3,799,134	61%	3.0%
City Attorney	6,627,119	4,580,706	69%	6,018,212	4,149,950	69%	0.2%
Agency Appropriations	5,564,200	3,234,291	58%	5,326,788	3,059,285	57%	0.7%
Communications	4,628,629	3,093,820	67%	4,215,357	2,672,254	63%	3.4%
Equity & Inclusion	2,409,163	1,108,912	46%	2,051,004	1,094,846	53%	-7.4%
Budget & Mgmt Services	1,986,104	1,324,031	67%	1,799,978	1,070,428	59%	7.2%
City Clerk	919,794	538,751	59%	845,701	485,941	57%	1.1%
City Council	561,430	408,214	73%	559,511	414,737	74%	-1.4%
Special Appropriations	251,953,976	192,384,168	76%	235,306,245	177,137,672	75%	1.1%
Total	\$748,056,088	\$535,210,914	72%	\$691,450,670	\$486,860,312	70%	1.1%

Analysis

Department expenditures are performing as expected. Market adjustments in July, the City's new continuous service incentive program approved in November and lower vacancy rates have led to a slight increase in actuals for personnel and benefits when compared to prior year.

Shown in the table to the right is overtime pay through Q3 for the top five General Fund departments.



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Raleigh Water (Fund 310)

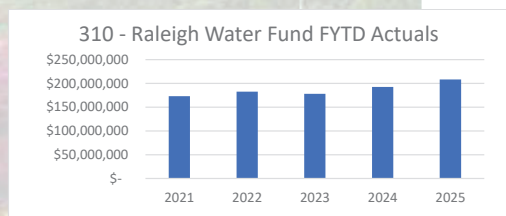
Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
Utility Sales	258,028,357	202,046,661	78%	241,282,867	189,186,714	78%	-0.1%
Other Fees & Miscellaneous	6,489,192	4,736,253	73%	6,175,320	3,957,895	64%	8.9%
Interest Income	10,415,000	6,249,896	60%	5,500,000	6,278,903	114%	-54.2%
Inspection Fees	1,177,991	1,678,813	143%	1,177,991	1,344,679	114%	28.4%
Development Fees	945,000	978,212	104%	945,000	999,673	106%	-2.3%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	26,281,086	-	0%	26,482,443	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$303,336,626	\$215,689,835	71%	\$281,563,621	\$201,767,864	72%	-0.6%

Expenditures	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	45,906,455	32,730,523	71%	44,475,306	30,457,045	68%	2.8%
Employee Benefits	22,403,149	15,652,857	70%	20,980,220	14,227,448	68%	2.1%
Operating Expenditures	87,507,749	50,147,341	57%	81,497,249	47,497,342	58%	-1.0%
Interfund Expenditures	13,211,159	9,561,620	72%	12,752,149	9,531,153	75%	-2.4%
Operating Capital	1,573,114	611,019	39%	1,346,927	484,491	36%	2.9%
Transfer to Capital Funds	85,020,000	63,770,000	75%	75,000,000	56,250,000	75%	0.0%
Transfer to Debt Service	47,715,000	35,786,250	75%	45,511,770	34,133,828	75%	0.0%
Total	\$303,336,626	\$208,259,610	69%	\$281,563,621	\$192,581,306	68%	0.3%

Analysis

Raleigh Water, a regional utility, actual results through the first three quarters of FY25 are in line with prior year results with utility sales in line with prior year collections. Raleigh Water sets user fees utilizing a long-term financial model. Raleigh Water's financial model, includes operating and capital infrastructure financed from pay-go (cash) funding and debt financing, is meeting credit rating criteria.

Raleigh Water is meeting expectations.



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Data as of: March 31, 2025
May 9, 2025

Solid Waste Services (Fund 360)

Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
Residential Solid Waste Fees	42,387,874	31,556,587	74%	38,629,463	28,885,972	75%	-0.3%
Other Fees & Miscellaneous	2,032,330	1,153,175	57%	1,494,300	1,296,330	87%	-30.0%
Yardwaste Revenue	1,257,937	1,034,879	82%	1,147,038	953,328	83%	-0.8%
Transfers from Other Funds	5,898,673	4,424,005	75%	6,730,000	5,047,500	75%	0.0%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	5,117,286	-	0%	4,817,383	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$56,694,100	\$38,168,645	67%	\$52,818,184	\$36,183,130	69%	-1.2%

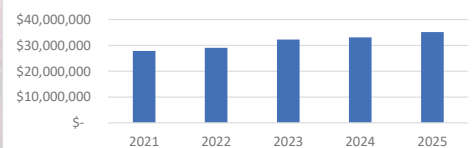
Expenditures	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	13,785,229	8,912,685	65%	12,473,121	7,996,351	64%	0.5%
Employee Benefits	6,524,553	4,335,311	66%	5,925,710	3,815,472	64%	2.1%
Operating Expenditures	26,086,576	14,729,846	56%	26,529,710	15,771,410	59%	-3.0%
Interfund Expenditures	6,482,359	4,593,277	71%	6,048,429	4,263,374	70%	0.4%
Operating Capital	881,037	385,825	44%	739,946	432,178	58%	-14.6%
Transfer to Capital Funds	1,800,000	1,350,000	75%	-	-	0%	0.0%
Transfer to Debt Service	1,134,346	850,760	75%	1,101,268	825,951	75%	0.0%
Total	\$56,694,100	\$35,157,702	62%	\$52,818,184	\$33,104,736	63%	-0.7%

Analysis

Solid Waste Services user fee collections are in line with expectations achieving 74 percent of budgeted collections through Q3 and reflect budgeted rate increases. Operating expenditures are in line with expectations. In FY25, Solid Waste Services created a capital fund to provide for future capital investments.

Solid Waste is meeting expectations.

360 - SWS Operating Fund FYTD Actuals



Transit Operations (Fund 410)

Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
Intergovernmental	29,307,769	6,139,675	21%	22,898,460	4,888,010	21%	-0.4%
Other Fees & Miscellaneous	7,921,380	6,738,406	85%	13,531,667	6,642,024	49%	36.0%
Transit Revenues	3,800,000	1,635,973	43%	2,000,000	1,163,650	58%	-15.1%
Transfers from Other Funds	21,477,470	16,108,103	75%	16,273,502	9,754,755	60%	15.1%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	1,212,653	-	0%	1,913,255	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$63,719,272	\$30,622,157	48%	\$56,616,884	\$22,448,440	40%	8.4%

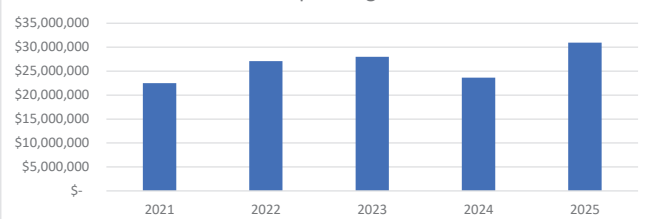
Expenditures	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	1,706,720	1,123,803	66%	1,576,140	990,419	63%	3.0%
Employee Benefits	783,695	535,115	68%	709,425	479,430	68%	0.7%
Operating Expenditures	60,233,429	28,565,446	47%	53,409,708	21,530,255	40%	7.1%
Interfund Expenditures	995,428	727,637	73%	921,611	643,605	70%	3.3%
Total	\$63,719,272	\$30,952,001	49%	\$56,616,884	\$23,643,709	42%	6.8%

Analysis

Year-to-date revenues are ahead of prior year collections. Transit returned to fare collections beginning in September and staff are monitoring those results. Operating expenditures are up year over year primarily due to timing of activity with transit management contract.

Management is closely watching Transit operations and the return to fare collections.

410 - Public Transit Operating Fund FYTD Actuals



Stormwater Operations (Fund 460)

Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
Stormwater Fees	37,711.884	28,328.329	75%	35,370.310	26,739.142	76%	-0.5%
Other Fees & Miscellaneous	845.004	101,012	12%	821.186	60,430	7%	4.6%
Interest Income	704.215	434,775	62%	249,864	421,422	169%	-106.9%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	1,617,497	-	0%	1,376,571	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$40,878,600	\$28,864,116	71%	\$37,817,931	\$27,220,995	72%	-1.4%

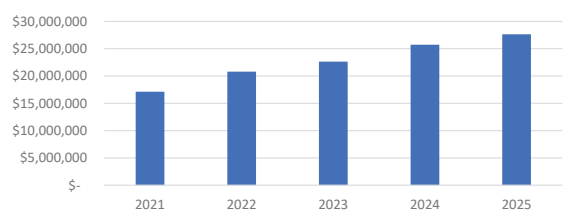
Expenditures	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	10,703.337	7,174,400	67%	9,617,175	6,886,794	72%	-4.6%
Employee Benefits	4,994,897	3,350,825	67%	4,382,933	3,152,464	72%	-4.8%
Operating Expenditures	6,497,794	3,270,917	50%	6,144,131	2,940,641	48%	2.5%
Interfund Expenditures	4,475,464	3,173,217	71%	4,247,542	2,691,683	63%	7.5%
Transfer to Capital Funds	13,900,000	10,431,250	75%	13,128,000	9,825,750	75%	0.0%
Transfer to Other Funds	307,108	230,331	75%	298,150	223,613	75%	0.0%
Total	\$40,878,600	\$27,630,938	68%	\$37,817,931	\$25,720,944	68%	-0.4%

Analysis

Stormwater actual revenue collections are in line with prior year collections following the FY25 approved rate increase and expenditures are in-line with prior year results.

Overall, Stormwater results are meeting expectations.

460 - Stormwater Operations Fund FYTD Actuals



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Data as of: March 31, 2025

Raleigh Convention Center Complex Operations (Fund 642)

Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
RCC/PAC Revenue	17,233.937	14,458.357	84%	16,973.665	10,664.778	63%	21.1%
Transfers from Other Funds	6,428.438	4,821.329	75%	6,211.929	4,658.947	75%	0.0%
Other Fees & Miscellaneous	3,129,426	1,923,566	61%	2,892,773	2,107,289	73%	-11.4%
Interest Income	41,588	26,742	64%	-	25,495	0%	64.3%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	4,397,251	-	0%	4,991,964	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$31,230,640	\$21,229,993	68%	\$31,070,331	\$17,456,509	56%	11.8%

Expenditures	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	9,216,604	6,346,451	69%	9,008,739	5,927,463	66%	3.1%
Employee Benefits	3,922,279	2,771,731	71%	3,711,088	2,556,541	69%	1.8%
Operating Expenditures	13,003,976	7,358,644	57%	12,305,338	6,563,590	53%	3.2%
Interfund Expenditures	1,962,040	1,424,264	73%	1,720,166	1,286,143	75%	-2.2%
Transfer to Other Funds	3,125,741	-	0%	4,325,000	243,750	6%	-5.6%
Total	\$31,230,640	\$17,901,090	57%	\$31,070,331	\$16,577,487	53%	4.0%

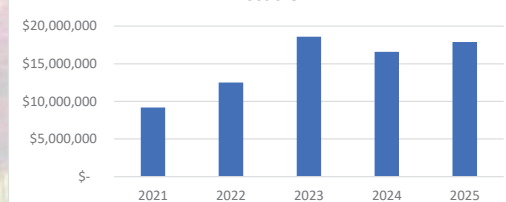
Analysis

Raleigh Convention Center Complex YTD user fee revenues are trending higher as compared to prior year actuals, with actual collections at 84 percent of the budget.

Expenditures are trending slightly higher than prior year due to the correlation of increased operating expenses in alignment with hosted events.

The Raleigh Convention Center Complex is meeting expectations.

642 - RCC/PAC Operations Fund FYTD Actuals



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Data as of: March 31, 2025
May 9, 2025

Parking Operations (Fund 442)

Revenue Type	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Collected
	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	Budget	FYTD	% Collected	
Parking Fees	15,137,453	10,026,448	66%	16,052,000	9,935,384	62%	4.3%
Other Fees & Miscellaneous	40,300	36,343	90%	40,000	41,053	103%	-12.5%
Transfer from General Fund	2,738,788	2,054,091	75%	-	-	0%	75.0%
Interest Income	52,678	14,087	27%	34,121	12,261	0%	26.7%
Fund Balance & Special Reserves	26,988	-	0%	1,443,090	-	0%	0.0%
Total	\$17,996,207	\$12,130,969	67%	\$17,569,211	\$9,988,697	57%	10.6%

Expenditures	FY2025			FY2024			Change in % Spent
	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	Budget	FYTD	% Spent	
Personnel	2,181,524	1,377,061	63%	2,074,332	1,184,310	57%	6.0%
Employee Benefits	1,145,416	735,517	64%	1,065,830	644,270	60%	3.8%
Operating Expenditures	6,392,776	3,634,064	57%	6,265,899	3,683,845	59%	-1.9%
Interfund Expenditures	826,491	619,849	75%	721,398	540,091	75%	0.1%
Operating Capital	-	-	0%	6,500	1,199	18%	-18.4%
Transfer to Capital Funds	510,000	382,500	75%	575,000	431,250	75%	0.0%
Transfer to Debt Service	6,940,000	5,205,000	75%	6,860,252	5,145,189	75%	0.0%
Total	\$17,996,207	\$11,953,990	66%	\$17,569,211	\$11,630,155	66%	0.2%

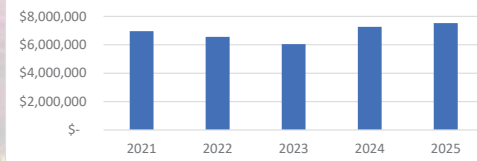
Analysis

Parking revenues, specifically off-street parking, continue to be impacted by hybrid work schedules. Parking fee revenues collected year-to-date are slightly higher than the prior year. Management is monitoring parking operations and the impact of the 2-hour fare free pilot program which started in November 2024.

Parking expenditures are slightly higher than prior year due to anticipated increases in personnel and operating expenditures.

Parking operations are budgeted to be subsidized by the General Fund in FY25. Given trends, staff believe the operations are meeting expectations and therefore as of Q3, parking is no longer on watch.

442 - Parking Facilities Fund-Operat FYTD
Actuals



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Glossary

- **General Fund:** The main operating fund accounting for governmental functions supported by general taxes and revenues, and financial resources that legal requirements do not require to be accounted for in another fund. Revenues to support the General Fund are derived largely from sources such as property tax, sales tax, fees and intergovernmental revenues.
- **Enterprise Fund:** A fund that accounts for enterprise activities supported wholly or partially with user fees or charges and is operated using business principles. The following enterprise funds are featured in this report:
 - **Raleigh Water (Fund 310):** supports the regional utility that provides drinking water, sanitary sewer, and reuse water services to Raleigh and six neighboring towns.
 - **Solid Waste Services (Fund 360):** supports safe and efficient residential curbside garbage, recycling, yard waste, special/bulky, and e-waste collection, as well as disposal services.
 - **Transit Operations (Fund 410):** supports the operation of GoRaleigh, as well as GoRaleigh Access.
 - **Stormwater Operations (Fund 460):** supports the City's Stormwater Utility, including drainage and water quality assistance programs, major capital improvement projects, public drainage system operation and maintenance.
 - **Raleigh Convention Center Complex (Fund 642):** represents the Raleigh Convention Center, Martin Marietta Center for the Performing Arts, Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek and Red Hat Amphitheater.
 - **Parking Operations (Fund 442):** operates on-street and off-street parking downtown and throughout the city.
- **Fiscal Year:** A 12-month financial reporting period. The fiscal year for the City is July 1 – June 30.
- **FYTD:** Fiscal year-to-date; July 1 to an accounting month end.
- **Key Expenditure Categories:**
 - **Personnel:** Salary accounts such as part-time, full-time, etc.
 - **Employee Benefits:** Benefits accounts for health care costs and employer related payroll taxes for employees
 - **Operating Expenditures:** – Accounts such as office supplies, operational and maintenance supplies, fuel, computer leases, professional and contracted services, organizational and development training, etc.
- **Fund Balance Appropriation:** An amount budgeted from the accumulation of operating surpluses and deficits in a fund over time.
 - For the General Fund, the adopted policy requires a minimum of 17% unassigned fund balance reserve as compared to the next year budget.

Thanks to Budget and Management Services and City Departments for assistance and contributions to this financial report.

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Patrick O. Young, AICP, Director
From	Travis R. Crane, Assistant Director
Department	Planning and Development
Date	May 9, 2025
Subject	City Council Follow Up Item/Development Review Commission Recommendations

During the April 15 City Council meeting, the Design Review Commission presented their annual report. This report contained a few suggestions to examine and potentially alter the UDO. Staff has discussed internally and provides this memorandum in response to the request. Should the City Council wish to take action, it would be appropriate to authorize a text change.

Design Review Commission Recommendations

The Design Review Commission identified two specific topics for review and potential alteration. These topics were related to building transparency and self service storage facilities. The Commission's recommendation for building transparency is:

- Consider providing alternative transparency requirements based on project type (e.g., storage facility, fast food restaurant, convenience stores) or location (e.g., proximity to right-of-way) in the amount of required glazing and/or revisions to the required transparency percentages.

The Commission recommendation for self service storage is:

- Consider further limiting the location of self-storage uses via zoning or prescribe further use-specific requirements for self-storage facilities to limit their use in highly visible locations.

These topics have been internally discussed by staff. The recommendation related to self service storage was discussed by the 2017 City Council in response to an increase in development of self service storage facilities, known as "High Impact and High Visibility Uses." Ultimately, the City Council chose not to act on the request to modify the UDO standards. Similarly, staff has discussed the transparency requirements in different contexts. These discussions related to two basic types of development – corporate development, where building design is typically standardized and urban development

where multiple street frontages (especially in or near downtown) require transparency. Developers have opined that the presence of multiple street frontages make it difficult to locate “back of house” operations like service entrances, refuse collection, parking structure entrances and other associated similar uses. While the City has altered the requirements for transparency in the UDO the alterations have not fully addressed the entire scope of feedback from the development community. During discussion at the Design Review Commission, it was not clear that a preferred option to address the problems related to required transparency have been identified. The potential suggestion related to self service storage facilities was to examine the appropriate zoning districts where the use is located. This was part of the 2017 presentation to City Council.

Staff would also note that the Board of Adjustment request history and actions were also examined with this request. Staff routinely tracks the type and volume of variance requests. If any trends are realized, they are typically captured in the twice-annual Omnibus text change request. An examination of the past year did not reveal any clear trends in variance requests.

Alteration to the UDO

If desired, a change to the UDO would be required. This would require internal coordination with several departments, including Department of Transportation and the City Attorney’s Office. Additionally, Planning and Development would include the Design Review Commission in the review of any text change prior to referral to the Planning Commission. Staff would follow the normal text change process and would post the text change to the online portal for public input, refer to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation and deliver that recommendation to the City Council for consideration and public hearing.

Next Steps

If the City Council would like to proceed, it would be appropriate to authorize a text change. Staff would work together with the relevant departments to draft a text change for delivery to the Planning Commission.

Weekly Events Digest

Friday, May 9 – Thursday, May 15

City of Raleigh Office of Special Events
specialevents@raleighnc.gov | 919-996-2200 | raleighnc.gov/special-events-office

Permitted Special Events

[NC Fallen Firefighters Foundation Annual Memorial Service](#)

Nash Square & Martin Street

Saturday, May 10

Event Time: 11:30am - 3:00pm

Associated Impacts: Nash Square will be used from 7:00pm on 5-9-25 until 5:00pm on 5-10-25. W. Martin Street between S. Dawson Street and S. McDowell Street will be closed from 8:00am until 5:00pm on 5-10-25.

Other Upcoming Events

[Rüfüs Du Sol](#)

Friday, May 9

Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek

[Shane Gillis Live](#)

Friday, May 9

Lenovo Center

[Bike Bonanza](#)

Friday, May 9

Pullen Park

[Special First Friday Market and Movie Night](#)

Friday, May 9

Moore Square

[Stravinsky: The Firebird – NC Symphony](#)

Friday, May 9 & Saturday, May 10

Meymandi Concert Hall

[Family Fun Day – Trees](#)

Saturday, May 10

City of Raleigh Museum

[Stream Monitoring Workshop](#)

Saturday, May 10

Walnut Creek Wetland Center

[Game 3: Capitals vs. Hurricanes](#)

Saturday, May 10

Lenovo Center

[DanceArt's 23rd Annual Dance Recital](#)

Saturday, May 10

Memorial Auditorium

Schoolhouse Rock Live!

Through Sunday, May 11
Raleigh Little Theatre

Pearl Jam

Sunday, May 11 & Tuesday, May 13
Lenovo Center

Sertoma Public Art – Scratch Block Workshop 1

Monday, May 12
Sertoma Arts Center

Game 4: Capitals vs. Hurricanes

Monday, May 12
Lenovo Center

Coheed and Cambria with Mastodon

Tuesday, May 13
Red Hat Amphitheater

Sociable City Assessment Summit

Wednesday, May 14
Chapel at Dix Park

Ken Burns: The American Revolution

Thursday, May 15
Fletcher Opera Theater

Swan Lake – Carolina Ballet

Thursday, May 15 – Sunday, May 18
Memorial Auditorium

Public Resources

Event Feedback Form: Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Office of Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

Road Closure and Road Race Map: A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

Online Events Calendar: View all currently scheduled events that impact city streets, public plazas, and Dix Park.

Council Member Follow Up

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Patrick O. Young, AICP, Director
From	Travis R. Crane, Assistant Director
Department	Planning and Development
Date	May 9, 2025
Subject	City Council Follow Up Item/Tree Removal

During a recent City Council meeting, Planning and Development staff was asked to provide information related to tree removal and associated penalties for any unapproved removal of trees. This item has also been placed on the May 27 Growth and Natural Resources Committee meeting. The inquiry initially came as a result of a complaint related to tree removal on a property. Staff has discussed internally and provides this memorandum in response to the request, including specific information about the property in question and the regulations related to tree removal and conservation.

Site Specific Information

Staff received a complaint regarding the property at 0 Lorimer Road. The complainant stated that the trees had been removed from this property. The property is triangular shaped and directly adjacent to the I-440 Beltline. The property is vacant, 0.79 acres in size, zoned Neighborhood Mixed Use (NX) with both the Special Residential Parking Overlay District (SRPOD) and Special Highway Overlay District-1 (SHOD-1). The NX zoning district would permit residential, office, and some retail uses. The Special Residential Parking Overlay District would only apply if the property were developed with single- or two-family dwelling units. The Special Highway Overlay District requires a tree buffer directly adjacent to the I-440 Beltline.

When staff received the complaint, the standards in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) were examined for compliance. An adjacent property owner made the complaint, and the intent to develop the parcel was unknown. After a thorough reading of the UDO, it became clear to staff that the language in Section 5.3.1.D applies to the parcel, stating that “Any portion of a lot abutting a Major Access Corridor requires a 50-foot protective yard landscaped in accordance with [Sec. 5.3.1.F...](#)” Staff’s initial review of the standards was based on a belief that a pending development plan on the property could cure any violation by requiring tree planting. After a closer reading of the

standards, staff opined that the removal of trees absent a development plan can constitute a violation.

The section goes on to state that if the parcel is larger than 2 acres in size, the protective yard must be a tree conservation area. Staff believes that this language requires any size lot in the SHOD-1 overlay plant a protective yard (for lots less than 2 acres in size) or preserve existing trees (for lots of 2 acres in size or greater). The State of North Carolina has granted local authority to the City related to tree conservation. This specific authority states that: "[a] municipality may adopt ordinances to regulate the removal and preservation of existing trees and shrubs *prior to development* within a perimeter buffer zone up to 65 feet along road ways and property boundaries".

For this property, Zoning Enforcement staff has coordinated with Urban Forestry to cite the property owner for violation of the UDO. The typical process requires staff to notify the property owner of a Notice of Violation (NOV) observed by staff. The NOV provides a timeline to address the violation. If the timeline passes, staff begins to assess fines associated with the violation, eventually increasing to \$500 per day for each day of non-compliance.

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Patrick O. Young, AICP, Director
From	Travis R. Crane, Assistant Director
Department	Planning and Development
Date	May 9, 2025
Subject	City Council Follow Up Item/Minor Subdivisions

During a recent City Council meeting, Mayor Cowell asked Planning and Development to provide a report on minor subdivisions. Staff has discussed internally and provides this memorandum in response to the request. Should the City Council wish to take action, it would be appropriate to authorize a text change.

Existing State Legislation

The State of North Carolina permits several “exempt” subdivisions. State law currently authorizes the following exempt subdivisions:

1. The combination or recombination of portions of previously subdivided and recorded lots where the total number of lots is not increased and the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards of the local government as shown in its subdivision regulations.
2. The division of land into parcels greater than 10 acres where no street right-of-way dedication is involved.
3. The public acquisition by purchase of strips of land for the widening or opening of streets or for public transportation system corridors.
4. The division of a tract in single ownership whose entire area is no greater than 2 acres into not more than three lots, where no street right-of-way dedication is involved and where the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards of the local government, as shown in its subdivision regulations.
5. The division of a tract into parcels in accordance with the terms of a probated will or in accordance with intestate succession under Chapter 29 of the General Statutes.

The UDO currently includes language related to all of these exempt plats, except for number four related to minor subdivisions. It is likely that this exemption does not exist

as under the former Zoning Code small subdivisions required Planning Commission approval. This approval is no longer required; however, the exemption for minor subdivisions is not contained in the UDO.

Alteration to the UDO

If desired, a change to the UDO would be required. This would require internal coordination with several departments, including Department of Transportation, Engineering Services, Raleigh Water and the City Attorney's Office. Planning and Development would follow the normal text change process. Staff would post the text change to the online portal for public input, refer to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation and deliver that recommendation to the City Council for consideration and public hearing.

Next Steps

If the City Council would like to proceed, it would be appropriate to authorize a text change. Staff would work together with the relevant departments to draft a text change for delivery to the Planning Commission.

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Patrick O. Young, AICP, Director
From	Tania Tully, Historic Preservation Supervisor Erin Morton Pugh, Senior Preservation Planner
Department	Planning and Development
Date	May 9, 2025
Subject	Council Follow-up Item: April 15, 2025 Meeting LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study

At the April 15, 2025 City Council meeting, the Raleigh Historic Development Commission (RHDC) presented the [LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study](#) final report. In discussing this item, Councilmember Lambert-Melton requested additional information on the project goals and deliverables, specifically implementation of non-regulatory recognition of properties identified as having special historic significance to the LGBTQIA+ community. The study and report will be included on the Department of Equity and Inclusion's web page.

LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study Overview

The LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study had several goals, all of which were met.

- Identify places and sites important to Raleigh's LGBTQIA+ history.
- Write a historic overview of Raleigh's LGBTQIA+ communities to help contextualize these places within the city's bigger story.
- Provide a framework to evaluate places for local landmark eligibility. This is important particularly for the cultural history aspect of these places, which are not necessarily important because of how they look or their architectural style.
- Propose alternative forms of non-regulatory recognition. These ideas would be useful in recognizing places that are demolished and/or the business or group no longer exists. They are also useful for places not eligible for landmarking or when a property owner is not interested in pursuing historic designation.
- Make recommendations for future actions, programs, and research. Expand our public knowledge and celebration of Raleigh's LGBTQIA+ historic places.

Deliverables to accomplish these goals included 5 community meetings, 4 online surveys, 8 oral history interviews, a historic context report, a list of LGBTQIA+ identified places, and 20 site evaluations with photos. Over 250 properties were identified: 10

places from before the 1960s, 21 places tied to women, and 10 tied to people of color. The community meetings were held in person and online. Public input was used to identify places of importance, to select the 20 places that would be evaluated for landmark designation eligibility and to weigh potential recognition programs and next steps.

Of the 20 sites that received a focused evaluation as a part of this project, 16 properties were determined likely eligible for landmark designation. Letters were mailed to all 20 property owners informing them of their property's inclusion in the report and sharing high-level information about local landmarking in Raleigh. Two of these owners have already contacted City staff to express interest in pursuing landmark designation.

In addition to pursuing local landmark designation with interested owners of eligible properties, recommendations for potential actions, programs, and future research are included in the full report document. The report's top three recommendations, which align with community feedback, include digital mapping, physical markers and oral histories.

The purpose of additional oral histories would be to learn more about historic places connected to less well-represented groups in the report findings. This includes women, transgender and non-binary people, and people of color. There are no current plans to conduct additional oral histories as a part of this project.

Alternative Recognition

The successful implementation of a non-regulatory recognition program requires collaboration, open dialogue, and a shared commitment to the preservation of Raleigh's culture. A report prepared by a historic preservation summer intern investigated the feasibility of implementing a non-regulatory historic recognition program. Case studies included the Heritage Communities program in Greensboro, the Historic Marker Program in Winston-Salem, and History Here in San Antonio, Texas. Raleigh has the opportunity to pull from the best practices and share the cultural legacy of historically significant places and communities. These include focusing on community support and utilizing the City's website and an interactive digital map.

Digital Mapping

As part of implementation of the LGBTQIA+ Historic Context Study an interactive digital mapping tool of the full list of identified places is already in development. The product will include photos, building data, LGBTQIA+ associated years, site use, demographic indicators if known, and a description of each place's historic significance when known. The map is intended to be a 'living document' that can be updated as we learn new information and will be made available to the public on Raleigh Open Data when complete. The map will also be highlighted as part of the Department of Equity and Inclusion's web presence.

A graduate level course in NC State University's Public History program used the report as a jumping off point for the class projects. Two ArcGIS StoryMaps focused on the gay

history of the Warehouse District and on the popularity of early downtown hotel bars as discrete LGBTQ meeting places are being created by students. These maps will be delivered to City staff at the end of the Spring 2025 semester.

Physical Markers

Markers serve as a visual cue to passersby that a location is of interest. To be effective as interpretation as well as for recognition, a marker program would pair with the digital mapping tool. The City of Raleigh does not have an established marker program. For the regulatory designation programs plaques are provided for designated Raleigh Historic Landmarks and street signs in the Historic Overlay Districts are brown.

Physical markers can take many forms such as plaques on buildings, vertical signage, and markers embedded into the sidewalks. Planning and Development staff are preparing a physical marker mock-up and suggested technical specifications to present to the group. The goal is to strike a balance in the marker's size, cost, durability, and adaptability. Markers could be placed in conjunction with potential cultural districts and for historic themes with scattered sites.

Pilot Program

An interdepartmental workgroup will convene this summer to evaluate the creation of a program that combines physical marker and digital mapping. The workgroup will review the program from varying perspectives including interpretation, programmatic, technical, and financial considerations. It is anticipated that a proposal for a pilot program for LGBTQIA+ important places and for the Fourth Ward will be brought to City Council in October.